THE

# SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

*All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office,* 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

*As the continuance of the publication of the* BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

*The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer,* (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

## THE SANITARY MOVEMENT IN EUROPEAN ARMIES.

We have already more than once endeavored to impress upon our readers, that the Sanitary Commission has not been called for by the existence of any peculiar defects in the Medical Department of our Army. In so far as the Medical Department fails to meet all the demands upon it, it fails in common with that of every other large Army in the world, and with more and better excuses for failing than those of other armies usually have, owing to the nature of the country, and the immensity of the distances on the theatre of our military operations.

In the minds of large numbers of well meaning people, the strongest objection to the Commisson lies in its novelty. They have never heard of any thing of the kind in any other war, and conclude that it is either not called for in this war, or that our medical service is grossly and singularly inefficient. We wish now to take this opportunity of repeating what we said on this same subject in No. 8, of the BULLETIN, that the real reason for the attempt, which we are now making, to afford voluntary aid to the sick and wounded soldiers, is not by any means the fact that our sick and wounded are worse off than those of other armies; but the fact that the Christian public either in this or any other country, will not now allow men to suffer and perish, as in all previous wars they have suffered and perished, without making an effort to relieve them.

The number of sick and wounded who have ever been properly taken care of, in any war, by the regular medical organization, has always been a shockingly small propor-

tion of the whole, not from want of will, but for want of means. This was the case previous to the French Revolution, when movements were slow, sieges numerous, and winter quarters the rule. Since the introduction of Napoleon's strategy, with its rapid marches, frequent bivouacking, winter campaigns, swift concentration of forces, and sanguinary engagements, the disproportion between the capacity of the Medical Staff and the demands on it, has, in spite of the prodigious advance made in Sanitary science in the last fifty years, remained undiminished.

The public, however, will not allow soldiers to perish before their eyes as they did fifty years ago; first, because we are all more sensible to suffering than our fathers were; and, secondly, because our means of relieving it are greater. The telegraph, and railroad, and steamboat, have placed the soldier in the field, for the first time, within the reach of his friends at home, and therefore his friends, for the first time, are making an organized effort to reach him, and succor him; and they make a stronger and more vigorous effort, for exactly the same reason that we have more hospitals, more charitable institutions, better prisons, than we ever had before; or, in other words, because the world is more easily moved by the spectacle of human misery than it has ever been.

We receive from Europe, by nearly every mail, proofs of the correctness of this theory of the origin of our Sanitary Commission. The same sacred impulse which has called it into existence, is, we are glad to say, stirring the hearts of all those in other countries, who find themselves brought face to face with the horrors of the battle-field. A Sanitary Association has just been formed in Prussia; and we beg to remind our readers, that Prussia is a country in which the best modes of fitting armies for active service, has for a century and a half engaged, what may be fairly called, an inordinate share of the attention of the Government. The following explains the nature and objects of the Association; the *italics* are ours:

BERLIN SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

*In all wars of modern times it has been clearly proven that the best organization of the Medical Department fails to do all that is necessary for sick and wounded, unless supplemented by voluntary charity and private offerings.* This well-established axiom brought together a number of experienced persons from different parts of Europe, who met mainly with the authority of their respective Governments, in Geneva, last fall, to advise together, and to ascertain the best way of supplying help and of organizing to do good. Acting on their suggestions, the undersigned have associated under the patronage of the King and Queen of Prussia, in order to put in practice the rules adopted at Geneva, and to give the greatest possible extent to that patriotic voluntary activity, which in other days, and most of all in our own, is excited by the wants of our national defenders, by the largest field of labor, by general participation in it, by a well-organized scheme, by a unity of purpose, to reach the necessities of the immediate present, and to establish a permanent charity for all future contingencies.

In appealing to all friends and lovers of our country and its cause, we think it only necessary to give the subjoined sketch of our plan:

Dr. Largenbeck, *Med. Dir. 4th Corps.*
Prof. Magnus.
Mendelssohn, *Councillor.*
Dr. Pelldram, *Chaplain.*
Prince Radzivill.
Otto, Count Stolberg Wernigernde.
Thielen, *Chaplain.*
Wagner, *Bookseller.*
Dr. Wendt, *Chief City Physician.*
Henry the 13th, Prince Reuss.
Abetans, *Privy Councillor.*
Count Arnim Brytzenburg.
Dr. Bruggeman, *High Privy Councillor.*
V. Derenthall, *Lieutenant-General.*
Baron von Haber.
Hedemans, *Mayor.*
Dr. Hoffman, *General Superintendent.*
Dr. Housselle, *Chief Medical Director.*

APPEAL.

The Crimean War and the Italian Campaigns prove that in the present system of carrying on War, even well-organised Army Medical Departments cannot meet the wants of sick and wounded in the field. In October there met, at Geneva, a number of persons who had practical experience, and who represented Baden, Bavaria, England, France, Holland, Austria, Prussia, Russia, Saxony, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Wurtemberg, and other governments, to confer and ascertain and determine "How best to help the medical staff of every army to provide for their sanitary duties, and to give them the means of supplying their wants." This conference adopted the following general regulations:

1st. In every state there should be a

commission, prepared to anticipate and supply the inevitable wants of its army.

2d. Each commission should organize its own local subdivisions.

3d. Every such division should be duly established by (and with the consent of) the local authorities.

4th. In time of peace, the members prepare and collect material for use in war, and learn thoroughly the duty of nurses.

5th. In time of war, each commission helps freely its own soldiers with a supply of nurses, by preparing quarters for sick and wounded, and by getting help from their associates in neutral states.

6th. Nurses and help of all kinds to be furnished at the call of the regular medical authorities, and to be directed by them.

7th. Voluntary nurses to be fully supplied by the locality whence they are sent, and to draw all articles from one source.

8th. The universal insignia to be a white band with red cross.

9th. The commissions and local committees to unite in an International Congress for discussion, improvement and advice.

10th. For the present the Geneva Commission to be the common channel for all correspondence between different countries.

The following are its officers: General Dufour, Gustav Moynier, Dr. Mannoir, Dr. Appia, Henry Dunan.

The Conference also make public the following requests:

*A.* That the Government, in every case, give to Sanitary Commissions authority, sanction, and protection.

*B.* That, in time of war, the privilege of neutrality be extended to official sanitary individuals, voluntary nurses, people who receive the wounded in their own houses, and the wounded themselves.

*C.* That common insignia of persons doing sanitary duty, and a common flag for hospitals, be adopted in all armies. *Although Prussia is universally acknowledged to be in the very furthest advance on all matters relating to military hospitals, and the care of sick and wounded soldiers, yet there is still room for a useful activity and a patriotic organization.* The undersigned are therefore agreed to form associations for the care of sick and wounded soldiers in the field. The King and Queen have promised help and assistance.

1st. *The task of the associations is to supply nursing and care to the hospitals now organized, and to encourage the production of all kinds of articles that may be useful or necessary.*

2d. The Central Bureau is established in Berlin.

3d. Provincial and Local Bureaus shall be begun in all parts of Germany.

4th. The duties of the Association are to provide for active work.

(1.) In time of peace:
- *a. To collect money.*
- *b. To prepare supplies.*
- c. To train nurses.
- d. To connect all organized charitable associations, clerical or lay, to the Sanitary Association.

(2.) In time of war:
- *a.* To establish hospitals in the field.
- *b.* To supply nurses.
- *c.* To have trained persons to give help on the field.
- *d. To forward all the articles needed for the sick and wounded.*

5th. The Central Bureau shall consist of twenty-five active members.

6th. The duties of the Central Bureau shall be—

To organize Provincial and Local Bureaus.

To be intermediary between these subordinate associations and the official authorities, by pointing out to the former the services required of them, and by supplying the latter with the means furnished for their use.

To establish hospitals, and to supervise those already established.

To make collections for them through the local sub-divisions.

To maintain an intimate correspondence with all branch and international associations, and to keep the public, as well as the members of the Commission, thoroughly acquainted with all of its workings and results, by frequent reports.

7th. The Central Bureau in Berlin shall be sub-divided into as many bureaus as there may be special duties.

8th. Admission shall be free to all persons, and members of the Association shall be—

*a.* All who take an active personal share in its operations.

*b.* All who subscribe yearly, at least 10 silbergroscher—$1.00.

Patrons of the Association are those whose gifts are frequent and large.

The provincial and local associations shall make their own rules.

9th. The Central Bureau shall correspond with other national associations, and with the International Committee of Geneva.

10th. The Association affirms the resolutions adopted at Geneva, and announces its purpose to put them in practice as soon and as far as may be possible. The patriotism of the Prussian nation is appealed to, not only on the ground of the sacrifices and duties of the present hour, not only for the sake of diminishing the sickness and suffering of our fellow-citizens in the field, the victims as well as the heroes of the existing war, but on the high authority of those practiced and experienced men of all na-

tions, who have joined unanimously in declaring the pressing necessity and the large usefulness of a Sanitary Association.

(Signed,)

THE COMMITTEE.

BERLIN, *February* 17, 1864.

—

The Prussian "Bureau of Military Economy" publishes the following notice, by order of the Minister of War—(Feb 16)

BERLIN, *Feb.* 16, '64.

The gifts from private persons and associations, for the benefit of the wounded Prussian soldiers, are supplied to an extent, and with a steadiness, that renew the largest pledges of the patriotic sympathy of the whole nation, and its warm love for the army. Most of these gifts consist of articles that are very useful for the sick, and particularly for the wounded; but not unfrequently they show that the generous giver is misled, by the exaggeration of newspapers, to believe that the valiant defenders of the country suffer from extreme want, and, even in the hospitals, are without the commonest necessities. This makes it necessary to declare publicly, especially to soothe the many families whose anxieties are kept alive to the sufferings of their sons and brothers, in an active winter campaign, that there never has been any real, continuous want; although, owing to the rapid movement of the different columns of troops, there has been an occasional deficiency of certain articles; and in spite of the largest and most careful anticipation of all kinds of supplies, it is not possible to avoid the accidental, and therefore bearable, deprivation of some things. There never has been any unreasonable delay in the care of the sick and wounded, or any want of preparation for them in the field. In the Prussian army, there are always four light field hospitals for 200 men each, which follow the troops into action, even, and three hospitals for 600 men each, established a little in the rear. At *Kiel* there is an hospital for 1,000 men, and all of the hospitals in Prussia are ready to receive the patients sent here. For all of these hospitals, before the war began, there was a full supply of bedsteads, hospital vessels, food of all kinds that could be carried, medicines, bandages, lint, &c. The necessary additions of lint and bandages have been forwarded from Berlin on every train, and there is always on hand a reserve of 50 *cwts.* of lint alone.

This announcement will assuage the fear of any want of a proper preparation for the wounded, and may serve to point out to all patriotic persons, who put their sympathy for the Prussian soldiers into practice, that their labors may be directed to a supply of those articles not usually supplied, or absolutely necessary, but none the less grateful to the sick and suffering. There is, however, no limit prescribed to the army surgeons; they are authorized to obtain, at the expense of the Government, any articles of food or comfort they may want. But in the country where an army is operating, it is not easy to lay hands on anything, and what can be had is not always to be preferred. Hence, supplies of soup, wine, preserved and fresh fruits, cigars, and other luxuries, are always useful and welcome. There are, also, articles for comfort, such as mattresses and pillows, flannels, shirts, and under clothing of all kinds, which cannot be too abundant. The War Department will gladly receive helps in the shape of gifts as these, and will be responsible for their careful distribution, besides publicly acknowledging, as usual, the name of every giver.

The noble generosity of the nation has also been exhibited, in handsome supplies of money, to be used in supporting wounded men discharged from hospitals, and the families of those who have fallen.

The Government has made full provision for invalided soldiers, and for the children of its soldiers, yet this field is open to the help of private generosity; all moneys for this purpose will be gladly received, and properly disposed of.

With patriotic feeling, there have been numerous offers of help in the field, from both clergy and laity, as nurses; and so many volunteers for this purpose, are already with the army, that it is requested that all who desire to go, or to send fit and proper persons for this work, will report to the War Department, in order to be assigned to places where their services are really required.

*War Office,*

*Department of Military Economy,*

HENRIG KNEVIES.

—

The *Dresden News*, however, prints the following extract from the letter of a regimental surgeon. It serves as a commentary on the above.

RENDSBURG, *Feb.* 6.—Although we Saxons have not been in action yet, and are not likely to be, I have worked as hard as if I was under the heaviest fire. At 11 P. M. of the 3rd, there arrived the first ambulance train of wounded Austrians and Prussians, from the battle-field; and, just think of it, there were no bandages, no beds, no covering, no hospital accommodations—not even an empty house—and, worst of all, not even an Austrian surgeon. What could we three Saxon surgeons do, with 230 severely wounded men, many of

whom could not speak a word of German, and not another doctor could be found in the place. We did all that was possible, and by 10 o'clock on the morning of the 4th, every patient was cared for. The Danish balls which we cut out, are twice as heavy and as big as the Austrian. The wounds were often fearful, frequently in the upper part of the body, because their weight gives the balls a larger arc, and they strike the men in the breast and lodge under the shoulders. In spite of the want of all preparation, we soon got help, and to-day every one of the 423 wounded men here has a bed, with a straw mattress, because we have set all our soldiers at work, and the women fetch in lint, old linen, bandages, and, what was most of all wanted, food of all kinds, in plenty. Last night there were eight deaths. All our Saxon surgeons off duty have their hands full at the hospitals.

—

The total receipts up to the 31st January, for the benefit of the Schleswig Holstein sufferers, is put at 283,490 fl.—$150,000.

—

The "Diakonissen haus (Society of Deaconesses) Bethanien," of Berlin, has published the following call:

The war has begun. When it will end, and how long it will last, God only knows. We are ready to care for the sick and wounded. The Order of St. John has prepared a hospital for fifty beds at Altona, and has assigned the charge of it to us. We have accepted the work, but our power is already exhausted; and we appeal to all Prussian, to all German women and widows, who are free from family cares, to share our sacred calling, and pray for their help. All whose hearts respond to this appeal, and who can join us, will report to me. It is desirable that every application, besides a brief statement of the personal relations of each individual, be accompanied by a copy of the certificate of baptism, the consent of parents, a testimony of good moral conduct, signed by the pastor, and a physician's certificate.

(Signed,)

ANNA, COUNTESS STOLBERG,
*Superintendent.*

BERLIN, BETHANY, *Feb.* 5.

—

The Count and Countess Stolberg reached Altona, on the day of the 1st February, accompanied by the Superintendent of the Diaconate, Bethany, from Berlin, and two deaconesses, to take part in the care of the hospital established at that place, by the Order of St. John.

## THINGS TO BE DONE.

Complaints are frequently made by the inspectors and relief agents of the Commission, that great loss occurs in the transportation of sanitary stores from BAD PACKING.

*Preserved fruits are often so badly put up in bottles or jars, that the corks come out, and the contents are spoiled or spilled.*

It is *useless* to pack sanitary stores in *poor barrels*, or thin, *badly coopered boxes.* If you expect your contributions of food to reach the needy sufferers, over the hard roads of military transportation, you must pack in *strong barrels, well strapped* and *nailed, or in boxes secured by careful nailing*, and either hickory, raw hide, or strap iron straps.

Dried fruits, for many reasons, are preferable to those put up in the moist state with sugar syrup; still the latter, when carefully packed, are of great value.

WILL NOT EVERY HOUSEWIFE IN THE COUNTRY PREPARE, AT LEAST, TWO BUSHELS OF DRIED APPLES, PLUMS, OR PEACHES, THIS YEAR, AND SEND THEM TO THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION, THROUGH THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIETY, OR BRANCH? BY SO DOING, HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OF BRAVE MEN MAY BE SAVED FROM WASTING SCURVY AND PERMANENT DISABILITY.

THE CALL FROM THE HIGHEST MILITARY AND MEDICAL AUTHORITIES IN THE FIELD IS CONSTANT AND LOUD FOR *onions*, *pickles*, and *potatoes.* Cannot EVERY LOYAL FARMER put in half an acre of ONIONS and POTATOES, THE BEST PREVENTIVES OF, OR REMEDIES FOR SCURVY, THAT TERRIBLE ENEMY OF ARMIES?

In this way a great blessing will be conferred upon the National Army, and the health and lives of the brave men derive due protection through the intelligent solicitude of the homes of the land.

## LETTERS IN OUR DRAWER.

Dr. Steiner, our Chief Inspector in the Armies of Eastern Virginia and Maryland, has sent in his report for the past three months; but as they have been unusually quiet months, little of special interest has occurred. The Relief Corps with the Army of Virginia consists, at present, of one

superintendent, one assistant superintendent, five relief agents, a storekeeper and assistant. Dr. Steiner says:

There has been but one active engagement in the Army of the Potomac since the last report, which is known technically as the battle of Morton's Ford. This engagement arose during a reconnoisance made by the Second Corps. It resulted in some two hundred wounded men being thrown into the hospitals of this corps. Our agents report that they were on hand, and furnished such warm under-clothing as was needed by the men, as also the requisite amount of stimulants and farinaceous food. It was fortunate that the stores, that a wise forethought of the superintendent had collected at Brandy Station, were sufficient to meet the demands of the occasion. Dr. Isaac Fairchild, one of the inspectors, was on the ground, and afforded the medical officers such aid as they needed in attending to the wounded.

* * * * *

The work of distribution has been carried on from three foci—the main storehouse at Brandy Station, (headquarters of Field Relief Corps,) the storehouse at Culpepper Court House, and at Catlett's Station. The stores have all been *issued on receipted requisitions from medical officers, or their accredited representatives, except where individual cases, requiring assistance, came directly under the agent's observation.* Reports have been rendered weekly of the work of each officer of the corps, and whenever these contained matters of public interest, extracts have been made, and forwarded for insertion in the BULLETIN. That these extracts have been comparatively few in number, can be accounted for simply from the fact, that there is but little of incident in the routine of winter-life in camp. Still, sufficient have been furnished, I trust, to show that the corps is fully alive to the work entrusted to it, and that this work has been cheerfully undertaken and unwearyiedly performed.

In consequence of the necessity of a resting and feeding place for soldiers and officers, arriving in a weak and prostrate condition at Brandy Station, an arrangement was made at Brandy Station for a species of field lodge, in connection with our headquarters. This has enabled the agents to give a comfortable bed and suitable food to a large number, who would otherwise have suffered for the want of such attentions, at a merely nominal expense.

* * * * *

As regards our work in Major General Kelly's command, heretofore we have depended upon occasional visits of inspectors to ascertain wants, which have then been supplied by issues from Washington. I am now about perfecting arrangements for the location of a permanent agent in Harper's Ferry, who shall have this work under his eye. The difficulty of securing agents has been so great, that I have preferred to train them for the purpose, in the Field Relief Corps of the Army of the Potomac.

During the stay of Mr. E. B. Fairchild, as special examiner in vital statistics, at Point Lookout, he was also delegated as relief agent. He issued such stores as were needed for the hospital, and occasionally supplied some of the more urgent needs of the prisoners in the immense prisoners' camp, established there. Among other articles forwarded, I may mention two hundred and twenty-five pounds of sulphur, with a view of stopping the ravages of the itch, which was largely prevalent there at one time.

During the past two months, in addition to the numerous duties resting upon me in conducting the machinery of this department, I have been enabled to make visits of inspection to the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Virginia, and to satisfy myself, by personal examination, of the practical execution of the plans that had been matured by me at the headquarters of the department.

The demand for supplies from the West still continues unabated. The negroes and contrabands from the enemy's lines are bringing the small pox with them as they flock in, and are filling our hospitals, and infecting our own men. Our agent at Memphis, Mr. Carpenter, reports to Dr. Newberry, (March 11)—

I have the honor to report the number of sick in General Hospitals, not quite 2,500. The prevailing diseases, pneumonia and small pox, very much on the increase.

The small pox increasing fearfully among the refugees and contrabands. I wish attention might be called forcibly to the dangerous character of the vaccine virus issued to Surgeons.

A great number of the troops here are suffering seriously from the effects of inoculation.

We received a very seasonable supply of sanitary stores yesterday from Cairo. We received no whisky or wines, which we are in need of, for Regimental Hospitals. We are entirely out of bedding, also; it is needed badly; wool under-clothing, socks and drawers, cotton shirts, we have a supply of for the present; towels and handkerchiefs, much needed. I have succeeded in making arrangements with Capt. Tigh, A. Q. M., by which the effects and mementoes of deceased soldiers in General Hospitals, for which he is not obliged to account, may be turned over to the U. S. Sanitary Commission, registered and preserved, until they can be returned to their friends. Under the present system, I have found it impossible to find or secure any thing, of that description, after the effects have once gone into the hands of the Quarter-Master.

I have also been trying to have the authorities open a mill, to grind corn, but have not succeeded in any thing yet.

I don't know but it may be best for the U. S. Sanitary Commission to do something about it, if we can succeed in no other way.

It seems indispensable to the colored troops and refugees, to have corn meal, and in hot weather, it will be very apt to sour, in bringing it from the North. Government would make a decided saving in using corn, if they would see it so, and take the trouble to provide it.

Dr. Lewis Cox, arrived here from Philadelphia, February 27th, as Medical Inspector of the Valley of the Mississippi.

I have just received (since I commenced this letter,) a requisition from Helena, for Sanitary supplies. The amount of supplies, of all the leading articles, with which we are furnished at this point, is entirely inadequate for the supply

of all that are dependent upon this post—Helena, Goodrich Landing, Fort Pillow, and the gun-boat supplies.

Helena reports to-day, 238 sick in hospitals.

* * * * * *

The Commission has followed up the expedition to Texas; and established agencies and stores at the leading points occupied by our troops. Mr. Mitchell, one of the Relief Agents there, writes, (January 20) from Decron's Point—

On the 15th instant, through Dr. White's courtesy, I secured a hospital tent for our stores, and an office. The substantial casks of cabbage, in currie and vinegar, the goodly row of potato barrels, and the flag of the Commission, more conspicuous, though not less useful in its way, fully attest that even on this "ultima thule," the volunteer soldier shall not be forgotten, or neglected by those who owe to him their present security and prosperity, and for whose present and future welfare, he has left a home and all its comforts, as dear to him as theirs. Even before the tent poles were well in the ground, there were several Surgeons at hand asking for those ordinary necessities, not to be obtained elsewhere at present.

* * * * * *

As I have already mentioned to you, symptoms of scurvy are said to exist among the men, and many of the Surgeons are desirous of obtaining prepared lemonade, as a preventive. If you have any in New Orleans, it cannot be made of more use elsewhere in the Department than here.

* * * * * *

And he adds, writing from Indianola, (February 11)---

The cabbage in currie is tasted with a smack of the lips, a grunt of satisfaction; then a more modest expression of the taste's appreciation of the article follows.

* * * * * *

The monographs of the Commission are highly prized here by the Surgeons, and are in great demand. I believe that I have already requested that complete sets be sent here. I would like to have at least thirty. The BULLETINS are also received here with pleasure, by both officers and men—an allowance of 100 per number can be well distributed. Please to send as large a supply of other reading as you can spare, for this command; it is impossible to obtain any thing but "trash" here, from any other source.

* * * * * *

The following furnishes a fresh illustration of the folly and absurdity of supposing that the condition of Government storehouses, in the cities of the North, has any necessary bearing on the condition of the troops at distant points in the field. The great difficulty with which the Government has to contend is not the accumulation of stores, but their distribution at the places where they are most needed. It is certainly strange that, at this stage in the war, attention should have to be so often drawn to this point.

Mr. Edgerly, one of our relief agents, writes from Brownsville, Texas, (January 30:)

* * * * *

General Herron stated that his men in hospital were greatly suffering for want of sanitary stores, and that he had already written to you, requesting a donation of supplies from the stores of the Commission. He further stated, that any stores that the Commission could spare for the benefit of the sick in his command, would be most thankfully received; and that he should be most happy to give us every facility in his power for carrying out the plans and objects of the Commission. He has already given orders to have a good storehouse immediately fitted up for the use of the Commission at this point.

* * * * *

The Post Hospital is in one of the best buildings in town. The wards look clean and tidy, but are entirely destitute of pillows, sheets, and hospital clothing; while the patients are supplied only with such diet as can be prepared from army rations, which consist mostly of bread, beef, flour, rice, and coffee. The prevailing diseases are said to be fever, diarrhea, and small-pox, of the latter of which there are some thirty cases.

* * * * *

Mr. Furness writes to Dr. Blake, Chief Inspector at New Orleans, February 26.

NEW ORLEANS, *February* 26, 1864.

In accordance with your instructions, I left New Orleans on the 6th February, on board the "Laurel Hill," with 117 sick and furloughed soldiers, having spent the previous five days in fixing up berths, dining tables, storeroom, &c., to the satisfaction of Dr. Stipp, Medical Inspector, department of the Gulf, who went with us as far as Baton Rouge.

* * * * * *

We arrived at Baton Rouge early on Sunday morning, when we took on board twenty men, making a total of 137: of course, they could not all be accommodated in staterooms, as there were but twenty-eight available, twenty of which had two berths each, and eight would accommodate three men each. I suggested a plan to Dr. Stipp, by which we could gain eighty-eight additional berths; he told me to go ahead and fix up the boat as I thought best. A row of berths was built in the centre of the saloon, eleven feet in length, two in width, and four in height. As the staterooms are accessible from the saloon and from the deck, it was thought advisable to run the dining table the whole length of the boat, fastening it to the framework of the staterooms, thus closing all the doors from the saloon into the state-rooms, on one side of the boat. A good bed, clean bedding, and a seat at the table was provided for every man.

* * * * * *

We still continue to receive very gratifying acknowledgments of the value of our labors, from the surgeons in the field.

HOSPITAL, 3D DIVISION, 2D A. C.
*March 12th*, 1864.

DR. GORDON WINSLOW:

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the many obligations I am under, for benefits rendered this hospital by the U. S. S. Commission, through their energetic and obliging representative, Mr. Holbrook. Through this agency, this hospital has been abundantly supplied with sheets, blankets, quilts, pillows, underclothing, of all kinds; milk, farina, corn starch, jellies, reading matter, and other materials, which were obtainable from no other source. They have also been of great service, in taking charge of disabled and discharged soldiers, who were not able to care for themselves, on their way home.

I am, also, under personal obligations to their several agents, for the kind and courteous manner in which these services have been rendered, and sincerely hope they may prosper in the good work in which they are engaged.

I have the honor to be

Your most obedient servant,

FRED'K A. DUDLEY,

*14th C. V., in charge of Hospital.*

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HEADQUARTERS, 2D DIV. 2D CORPS HOSPITAL,
*March 12th*, 1864.

DR. WINSLOW:

It is with great pleasure that I improve the present opportunity, to acknowledge the efficiency of, and benefits arising from your philanthropic and benevolent body, the Sanitary Commission. It is impossible to enumerate the many, very many, good results arising from its energetic endeavors to benefit the sick and wounded, who are under my charge.

We have received, through your agent, Mr. Holbrook, who, I am glad to say, is a young man every way worthy of, and competent to fill, the responsible position which he occupies, a bountiful supply of sheets, blankets, pillow-cases, underclothing, and *many other* necessaries, and luxuries, which have enabled us to make the sick and wounded comfortable and contented, much more than is generally the case in a field hospital.

I feel grateful for the uniform kindness shown, not only to the suffering, but to us all who are concerned in their restoration to health. I must, also, acknowledge the favors shown to our men, going to and from their homes.

That you may be blessed in your labors of love, and that the medical staff of the army may never be deprived of so powerful an auxilliary for good, is the wish of

Yours truly,

JOHN AIKIN,

*Surgeon 71st Pa. Vol., and in charge of hospital.*

Mrs. Stephen Barker, who is acting as Hospital Visitor at Washington, furnishes an interesting report of her labors during the past month:

During the month of February, my visits have continued in the three hospitals for the Invalid Corps, (Martindale, Cliffburn and Sheeburn,) the stone hospital, (for deserters,) the post hospitals, for the Massachusetts 1st Heavy Artillery, at Forts De Kalb and Albany, and for the New York 2nd Heavy Artillery, at Fort Corcoran.

Within the last week I have been introduced to two new hospitals; one at Camp Barry, (for artillery instruction) the other at Fort Sumner, garrisoned by the Maine 1st Heavy Artillery.

In most of these visits I have directed my attention principally to cultivating an acquaintance with hospital stewards, wardmasters, nurses, cooks, and attendants, in order to ascertain their fitness for their responsible places.

There is so much opportunity for dishonesty and neglect in these departments, which may escape the notice of even a conscientious surgeon, that it is not safe to infer from his integrity, a similar fidelity in his employes.

I have known a pious class-leading Methodist wardmaster, to hide as much stewed fruit as he distributed for supper, in order to regale himself and the whole kitchen corps, at luncheon the next day.

Sometimes the patients fare even worse, by getting not even a share of the luxuries intended for them. Whenever there is reason to suspect such a state of things I have found it best to ask special permission from the surgeon, to distribute a certain delicacy, then to *tell the patients* what they are to receive, and when I go the next time, to ask how they enjoyed it. If they never had it, they are very ready to tell me, and I can then find out the reason, by general questions, which imply no particular suspicions, and which wound nobody's pride. When a wardmaster or steward discovers that he is looked after, he is sure to be very careful. So, without any disturbance in our friendly relations, a power is exerted, whereby the rights of patients are protected, and the Hospital Corps become responsible for the maintenance of their own reputation and dignity. In all the hospitals I have visited, the pleasantest relations have been established between the attendants and myself, and everywhere I hear most gratifying acknowledgements of the benefits received from the Sanitary Commission. I have found the employes in all these hospitals, as I think, conscientious and reliable. The only hospital about which I have had some doubts, has now come under a new surgeon, and I will make no comment until I have further opportunity to study its management.

On my daily rounds, I have carried a variety of articles in my wagon, which have been eagerly welcomed, especially fresh cranberries, canned fruit and tomatoes, catsup, &c.

The thread bags (containing the letters) the brushes, combs, cologne and national songs, together with an admirable selection of books and magazines, lately received from Massachusetts, have given more pleasure than one would imagine, who did not witness the effect of their introduction into a ward.

Among the amusements connected with the hospital labor of this month, has been the writing of a few stories for the "Drum Beat" at the request, and *solely* for the gratification of our own distinguished Secretary.

Besides these, I have spent several hours in the study of anatomy, as illustrated by some government drawers, to which my attention was mournfully called by a conscientious wardmaster, who pronounced them unfit for use, though nearly new, owing to their entire dismemberment. Really I think even Professor Agassiz would have been puzzled to decide at a glance for what race of animals they were intended. But by additions

and subtractions according to accepted standards, we, the ladies of the house, shall redeem the condemned garments, and "return them to their regiments."

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## WORK OF RELIEF IN THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

So far as known, all wants of sick or wounded soldiers in this Department, not provided for by the ordinary Government Agencies, have been met by the Commission.

The amount of supplies distributed in Washington and vicinity, including the Army of the Potomac, has been less than in some previous months—the number of inmates of General Hospitals being at present small.

At Newbern, early in the month, at the time of the advance of the Rebels upon the town, and the engagement which followed, Dr. Page, Inspector of the Sanitary Commission, exhibited to advantage the system, efficiency and wise provision made by the Commission, although there was but little call for only battle-field service. A large amount of most timely aid was rendered to the regiments, whose supplies had been destroyed, and many stores judiciously distributed.

At Beaufort, S. C., the good work has continued, as has already been shown by the published reports of Dr. Marsh. Our agents were present, with supplies, at the battles in Florida—Dr. Marsh having loaded a brig of 350 tons, with Sanitary supplies, which accompanied the expedition to the Florida coast. The supplies furnished by the Commission, after the battle near Olustee, were, for a time, almost the only stores for the relief of the wounded there. The public have ere this seen the order of Gen. Seymour, acknowledging the value of the services of the Commission.

At New Orleans, the General Relief work has gone on satisfactorily. Mr. Abbott, recently returned from New Orleans, gives very gratifying accounts of the energy and faithfulness of our agents there, and of the acknowledged good which the Commission is doing in that Department in General relief work.

The General Relief work in the Army of the Potomac, has been faithfully and acceptably performed—under the immediate direction of Dr. Steiner, Chief Inspector of the Commission in that Army.

The store houses in Washington are accumulating supplies in anticipation of large and sudden demands upon them in the spring—supplies in quantity are being shipped to the Relief Stations on the coast.

At New Orleans, the "Home" has increased facilities, and increased demands upon it. Mr. NUTE, the former Superintendent, has returned to his regiment; and Mr. WEEVER, sent from the Washington office, is now Superintendent.

The office for pensions, back pay and bounties, at New Orleans, has been opened under the charge of Mr. SEATON—an efficient man from the Pension Office in Washington. Mr. SEATON reports that there were 150 cases waiting his arrival.

Arrangements for a new Lodge, for Special Relief Service, have been made at Portsmouth, Va. A large and conveniently located building has been assigned to the Commission at Portsmouth, by the military authorities, and all desired facilities secured to our agents there. It is likely to be a post of importance in the way of rendering relief.

A distinct Board of Special Relief has been found necessary at the office in Washington; and a person has accordingly been appointed, whose entire time is devoted to attending to the claims which come from the Navy—including the claims for "prize money." This is in accordance with a desire expressed at the Fourth Auditor's office, where these claims are presented.

Of the Hospital Directory, with its constantly enlarging beneficence, you have a report from Mr. BOWNE.

The Fresh Hospital Supply Agency continues rendering good service. According to the instructions of the Board a letter was sent to each Surgeon in charge of a General Hospital—thus supplied by the Commission—asking his opinion of the value of this agency. Most of the hospitals have replied, and the answers indicate, in general, satisfaction and appreciation of the service rendered. Some modifications may, however, be desirable.

There has been no oportunity during the past month for rendering aid to the Richmond prisoners through the Commission.

As soon as the exchanges are recommenced, the flag-of-truce boats will be supplied by our agents.

During the month there have been no changes of importance in the working corps —excepting the addition of three agents in the Special Relief work before referred to. Mr. Bascom, the faithful Pension Agent of the Commission, has resigned his place—his business at home demanding his presence there. Through the kindness and interest of the "Commissioner of Pensions," Mr. Barrett, another man of large experience and much ability, Mr. Barry, from the Pension Office, has been appointed in Mr. Bascom's place. From him back pay and bounties will be collected, as well as pensions, at Lodge No. 4, Washington.—*Mr. Knapp's Report.*

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## HOSPITALS IN THE WEST.

The hospital room in Louisville and vicinity has remained about the same for many months, but there have been a great many changes in the buildings used. The number of patients for some time has not been greatly different, for the beds made vacant by transfers to other hospitals, and deaths, are filled by the ceaseless tide of sick from the gradual accumulation in the hospitals at the front. At present there are about two thousand patients here, leaving some thirteen hundred vacant beds; four hundred of these, however, are at the Jefferson General Hospital, which is not yet complete in its arrangements.

The names of the hospitals, as they are now arranged, are—Clay, (formerly Nos. 1 and 4,) having 350 beds; Crittenden, (formerly Nos. 3 and 18, and Officers' Hospital,) having 280 beds; Brown Hospital, (formerly No. 7,) having 700 beds; Jefferson, at Jeffersonville, having beds at present for 700 patients; No. 16, at Jeffersonville, with beds for 87; at New Albany, General Hospitals, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 8, and 11, with capacity for 840; and the Eruptive Hospital, (formerly Nos. 5, 15, 19, and 20,) having 250 beds.

I have been thus explicit in recording these changes, as the information may be of some importance to those who have now, or may hereafter have, friends in these hospitals. Other changes will probably occur within a short time, as soon as the large hospital at Jeffersonville is ready for patients to its full capacity.

Taylor General Hospital was in successful operation, till about two weeks ago, when the patients were transferred to Jefferson Hospital. This hospital had about six hundred beds, was pleasantly situated, and was a grand improvement from the "up stairs and down" of many of the hospitals in the city; and, besides this, it had ample grounds within and around it. When these buildings were erected, as was supposed for barracks, all who had been through the houses used for the purpose in the city, and sympathized with the convalescents, rejoiced at the thought of their change, crowded as they were into their three-story double bedsteads, some of which ought to have been condemned long ago, even as a place for so many prisoners. But the same ill-ventilated, dark rooms have been used to the present time for barracks. There is, however, the hope now, these buildings having been given up for hospital purposes, that the poor fellows on Main Street, who have broken out the windows, to get into their Calcutta-holes fresh air, will be able to walk under the open sky without a pass, and sleep in a well-ventilated building.

Of the hospitals that are still retained, I have spoken before, and would now only say a few words concerning them. Brown is about three miles from the city, composed of one-story buildings, and with extensive grounds. The Eruptive Hospital, with its separate buildings, is from one to four miles distant in another direction. The prevalence of the small-pox has made it necessary to occupy two of the largest of these buildings for those afflicted with this disease. The capacity of all these hospitals, however, is, as I have mentioned, only for two hundred and fifty patients. The other two buildings are used for measles and erysipelas cases. As to Hospital No. 18, if it were only on account of the awkward arrangement of the rooms, I could hope it would soon be given up, for other and better places, that are being prepared. There is nothing "ship shape" about it.

Hospitals No. 3 and 4 (old numbers,) are detached from other buildings, and, having windows upon all sides, can, with care, be easily ventilated; and one, No. 3, has quite a large space around it. Hospital No. 1 is near the Nashville depot, and this is about all that can be said in favor of it. The very sick and wounded men, who are feeble after a long railroad journey, can be moved to this hospital, with less discomfort than to any other; and yet they must be carried up to the second story by a narrow flight of stairs. There are no grounds about this hospital, and in summer the dust from the street, upon which the windows open, and through which hundreds of vehicles pass every day, going to and from the depot, and the sun beating in at the same window, make some rooms unbearable. The kitchens to this hospital are not half as large as they should be, and they are suffering there now for the want of a good

range. It is certainly desirable to have some place near the depot for receiving patients, who may possibly arrive late at night, or are very feeble; and it would be an unnecessary cruelty, after they had endured so much, to give them a long ride through the city; but it seems to me some more comfortable arrangement could be made for this emergency, and that the time for the change has fully arrived. Lest, however, I should have given a wrong impression of the care and comfort of the soldiers in this hospital, I will give here the opinion of a father, whose son had been in this hospital a week at the time of his making the statement, and had been in continual attendance upon him. His son had been wounded at the battle of Chickamauga, in the right thigh, and had been lying ill in hospitals ever since. He was an intelligent, fine-looking boy, pale from his wound, which was still a running sore. The father, who exhibited many indications of the tenderness and anxiety of a mother's love for his son, said he had learned of his severe illness, and he could not stay away from him longer. He found him in Nashville, remained with him a while in hospital there, and finally, upon a cot in one of the hospital cars of the Commission, he had gotten him to Louisville. His son "had brightened up a good deal," and he believed his going after him had saved his life. When he arrived at Louisville, he found that the descriptive roll of his son had not been forwarded with him, and, as he then hoped to obtain his discharge immediately, he was in great trouble, learning that this would delay him. Some one told him of the aid he might obtain from the Commission, and he went to the Directory and made known his distress. A telegraph was sent to Nashville, the descriptive roll hunted up, and the next day, or the day following, was forwarded to Louisville. But now he found that, from the condition of the wound, his son could not be discharged immediately; and he was almost in despair, for his heart was set upon getting him home. I told him I could probably get a furlough for him; but at first he did not know how to listen to any thing so unsatisfactory. Ultimately, however, he was very glad to take any favor that would allow him to take his son home, no matter for how short the time. The surgeon was very busy, and I filled up the form myself, and, upon the surgeon's signing it, took it to the Medical Director; and on account of some informality, by reason of a new order, was obliged to take it back to the hospital for correction. This was immediately done, and it was forwarded to headquarters at Lexington, and in a few days there came, what was then considered a very great boon—the furlough. During this time I often came in contact with the father; he told me he had witnessed from day to day the food and attentions given to the patients, and he believed they were as comfortable as they would be if they were at home, and many of them more so; he had written home that very day saying so; and he added, "So far as he had observed, there was plenty to eat, and a variety." Of the surgeon who was there going through the ward, he remarked: "He is a devoted man. He was in the ward last night at nine o'clock, and again about twelve o'clock, and is in the hospital all night, if there is any need." He was very grateful for the aid the Commission rendered him, and said, "It had, indeed, been the greatest comfort and assistance to him, in his efforts to get his son home." He was particularly grateful for the bed for his son in the hospital car of the Commission from Nashville. "Without it he could not have moved him."

From this long digression, I would turn to conclude what I have further to say in description of the hospitals.

At present, there are five hospitals in New Albany, where formerly there were eleven. The number of beds being in all 840, and the number of patients 450. The public school buildings, formerly used for hospitals, have been given up there, as well as at Louisville. Two of those remaining, have grounds around them of considerable extent, and in many other respects are better adapted for hospitals than any others. One, No. 6, has a fine reading room, for papers, periodicals, and books; and lately, they have procured a small hand press from which they print notices, and have issued one edition of a monthly paper, much to the amusement of the soldiers. They furnish the original matter and set up the type.

Hospital No. 16, at Jeffersonville, has some eighty-seven beds; it is near the depot, and has, to some little extent, ministered to the wants of sick soldiers who were waiting for some train, or were too feeble to go any farther without attaining more rest; and many a poor fellow on his way home, has lain down upon a bed in this hospital, just for a little refreshment, before he should commence his weary journey again to reach his family, and has gone in a few days, to his long home, and his poor, shattered body placed under the sod, far from his wife and little ones. I remember one that was brought in speechless; no one could tell where the home was, which he had thus vainly struggled to reach, or who would mourn over the long silence, and in coming years wonder, with tearful eyes, where his life closed, and where his poor body was lying.

There ought, it seems to me, to be a home established at this point; it has been

a subject of consideration for some time, and what has been done here, has been, I believe, through the influence of the Commission; but there was never more need than now, for Jefferson Hospital, about a mile from the depot, having capacity for fifteen hundred patients, would, of itself, make it necessary. This hospital is altogether the largest in this vicinity. It has now some two or three hundred patients, but is in a crippled condition, because all of its arrangements are not completed. This is the grand idea of a hospital. Every thing that could well be imagined, every thing that experience could suggest, or money procure, is here combined in the way of conveniences, for the care, and comfort, and recovery of the sick soldier. The wards are separate buildings for about sixty patients, with a room for washing dishes, a dining-room, a wash-room, bath-room, wardmaster's room, and water-closets, and with warm and cold water supplied to every ward. A steam-engine forces the water from a well connected with the river, into a large reservoir, and from thence it is conveyed to all the buildings. There is to be a steam laundry, and by steam the wood is to be sawed, the kettle boiled, and sundry other useful and necessary things accomplished. The great change from the miserable rooms now used as barracks, where, upon the first opening of hospitals in this city, the sick were crowded together, depending, in great measure, upon voluntary assistance. This magnificent hospital must rejoice the heart of every philanthropist, and what is of more importance, the hearts of all those who have sons and brothers in the army.

The patients generally in our hospitals, have been well cared for, and the only real cause for complaint, it seems to me, has arisen from mismanagement, bad cooking, and in one or two instances, purloining. I attempted to show in a former report, from statistics, that if a hospital is economically managed, there will be money enough, generally, from the hospital fund for all the luxuries needed for the very sick. I am still of the opinion, where there is good management, very little is required beyond what the Government supplies. I have visited the hospitals, generally, in connection with cases of special relief, and this work has been a ceaseless call upon my time. I could not mention the almost numberless instances, in which I have rendered assistance and relief. Not a day passes, without having some of this work to do. Since my last report I have collected, for discharged men in hospital, and those too sick to attend to their own papers, $1,790 37; and since this month, last year, $11,309 40. The present location of the paymaster at the Soldiers Home, is of very great comfort to the feeble soldier going there for his pay, and this diminishes the number of those who desire attention to their papers in the hospitals.

I have alluded in other reports, to the great distress to soldiers and their families, from criminal carelessness and neglect in forwarding to the hospitals, with the men, their descriptive rolls. I have obtained lately, returns from nearly all the hospitals of the city, and of 1,400 men, 400 were without their descriptive rolls. There can be no good excuse offered for this disobedience to orders and distress of families. Two or three days since a surgeon was written to by the Secretary of the "Soldier's Aid Society," that was supporting the man's family, asking "why private ——— did not send money to his family,' and the answer was, "that he had no descriptive roll," and had not been able to get it for nineteen months. He is in the Invalid Corps. At the headquarters of this post, in the discharging office, are now lying over 750 certificates of disability. Three-fourths of them have been there over a year, awaiting the descriptive rolls, which are necessary to make out the final statements for a discharge, and settlement with Government. The amount of distress represented by these papers can scarcely be estimated. Three days since I received a letter from a man in great distress. He is fast losing his sight. He left with me power of attorney to collect his pay; but his certificate of disability is among the 750 mentioned above, and without his descriptive roll, his final settlement cannot be made out. Much more care is now used in the hospitals than ever before, with reference to these important papers, but so much distress continually arises, that a new order should, without doubt, be issued, or some definite punishment attached to the old one. I have visited the companies of the invalid corps stationed across the river, from time to time, and in their need extended to them the aid of the Commission.—*Mr. Bushnell's Report.*

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## THE WORK OF INSPECTION.

On the 5th of March, Dr. Douglas, Associate Secretary and chief of inspection, reported the following inspectors of the Commission as at work in their respective fields:

Inspector Crane, having first completed a sanitary inspection of the army of occupation in Texas, and reporting a very high health rate.

Inspector Marsh, in the Department of the South, as engaged in the duties consequent upon the Florida campaign.

Inspector Page, engaged in his usual duties of superintending the operations of the Commission in North Carolina, and

meeting the emergency springing out of the rebel attack upon Newbern.

Inspectors Winslow and Fairchild, having first completed the records relative to the battle of Gettysburg, and sent them to the actuary of the Commission for tabulation.

Inspector Nichols is busy in a minute inspection of the sanitary condition of the troops in his circuit.

Inspector Castleman is engaged in a second inspection of the forces in Western Virginia.

Inspector Swalm is engaged in sanitary labors in the Army of the Ohio.

Inspector Read is with the Army of the Cumberland.

Dr. N. S. Warren goes immediately to the aid of the latter.

Inspector Coxe reports from Memphis.

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## THE RETURNED PRISONERS.

Mr. F. N. Knapp, Assistant Secretary, reports, March 17th, "That General Butler has issued a special order, giving the agents of the U. S. Sanitary Commission authority to perform relief work upon the flag of truce boats.

"General Butler is most cordial in his readiness to afford facilities for the Commission to do its work in his department."

* * * * *

Mr. Knapp continues:

"About 6 P. M., Tuesday, (we arrived at Fortress Monroe, Tuesday morning,) the flag of truce of boat from City Point reached Fortress Monroe, with some five hundred of our returned prisoners. Mr. Abbott and I went on board, and accompanied them to Annapolis. On account of some delay at Fortress Monroe, and the heavy wind in the night making it very rough for the boat, (City of New York,) we did not reach Annapolis until 1½ P. M., Wednesday, (yesterday.) Thence, on our way to Washington, we visited Camp Peroli.

"The condition of the prisoners on the flag of truce boat indicated the terrible sufferings they have had, upon Belle Isle especially—exceedingly weak and emaciated. Of the four hundred and fifty privates, some seventy-five were in the so-called hospital of the boat, too weak to sit up without pain and exertion. Yet *none* of these were from the *hospitals* at Richmond; all were considered well men, from Belle Isle. One died from City Point to Fortress Monroe, during the night, as we came up; and some eight or ten more cannot live long—all apparently the result, simply or chiefly, of lack of food.

"The provisions made upon the boat for the comfort of the returned prisoners are considerable. The surgeon in charge, Dr. Elliot, seems humane, and desirous of performing his duty. He has a hospital, which will be improved by a wind-sail he purposes to put in. I have sent down to-day for him to draw from a stock of 'supplementary supplies,' deposited at Fortress Monroe with the quartermaster, on the wharf buildings.

"Mr. Abbott, or some one else, will go to Fort Monroe to come up with the next boatload; after which, probably, some agent of the Commission will be constantly on the boat in its trips, to render such service as he may, which, I think, will amount to considerable. The arrangements at Annapolis are good for receiving the prisoners.

"Mail compels me to close here.

"Truly yours, &c.,

"F. N. KNAPP,

"*Assistant Secretary.*"

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## HOW SANITARY STORES ARE DISTRIBUTED IN THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

They are placed in store-rooms as convenient as possible to the hospitals and camps, in charge of a competent store-keeper, and are given out by him, first and principally on the written request of the surgeon in charge, who in this request states the number for whom he desires to procure stores, and the special wants.

Secondly. The store-keeper issues stores on the application of the ladies in charge of what is called the "light-diet kitchen," in hospitals. Those drawn by the surgeon are, as a general rule, placed in charge of those ladies, when the hospitals are so fortunate as to have such help. These ladies cook and distribute them to the sick.

Thirdly. The stores are given to "Hospital Visitors"—agents who go to hospitals and camps, seeking out from every possible source any special cases of want, and supplying them. Such visits are made as often as possible.

Fourthly. The store-keepers fill all orders given by State agents, for any soldier they may find to be needy, or who apply to them for relief. They also furnish to individual soldiers, who may apply to any of the agents for relief, as soon as it can be ascertained they are really needy. Under a general order from the Secretary of the Department, they extend to the agents of the Christian Commission the same privileges as are enjoyed by our own relief agents, distributing to them to supply any individual cases of neglect or suffering which they may discover.

Fifthly. They furnish goods to the "Soldiers' Homes" and to the "Hospital Trains." When application is made by the surgeons or the soldiers for such articles as the Government has for distribution, effort is made by the agents of the Commission to have them supplied from Government stores.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

## LETTER OF CHARLES BUTLER, Esq.

[The letter given below was written by Charles Butler, Esq., of Franklin, Butler Co., O., a gentleman well and widely known in the region in which he resides, as a man of large business experience, and a conscientious and earnest Christian. He went to Nashville, Chattanooga, and Knoxville, in behalf of the Cincinnati Branch Commission, to examine into the wants of the Army, and the character and efficiency of our work:]

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.,
*February* 22d, 1864.

MR. EDITOR,—As I promised, I write you, giving a few items of the workings of the Sanitary Commission, that the "home folks" may be encouraged to work on in the good cause, and particularly that they may be assured that their efforts to reach the suffering soldiers are successful.

The great difficulty that the regiments in the front have to contend with at present, is a tendency to scurvy; and in their utter inability to procure any thing in the shape of vegetables, there will be seen the necessity of sending any thing and every thing in that line to these men. And they not only need such articles of diet, but they greatly want them. One Colonel said, my men will gladly pay twenty-five cents for a potato, and ten cents for an apple. The potatoes are eaten raw, scraped or sliced in vinegar, and much relished by the men.

I conversed with at least ten Surgeons, and the universal opinion was, that raw onions and potatoes, served up as a salad, was the best preventative known for scurvy.

I find almost all the regiments here, and around this place, have lately received potatoes, onions, sour krout, pickles, etc., that have been sent from the Cincinnati Branch Sanitary Commission—some 500 barrels having been sent to this place. I found one regiment that had received ten barrels of potatoes, six of onions, two of krout, and two of pickles. This regiment had thirty cases marked scurvy, and upwards of one hundred with decided symptoms of it. In two weeks it had almost disappeared, and the Surgeons said if he could get one more such supply his men would be well. He used the vegetables raw.

Could the people at the North see the soldiers as they receive their rations of vegetables, read the satisfaction in their countenances, and notice the care with which they dispose of, say a dozen potatoes in a choice place, eating one at a meal, they would feel doubly paid for their pains in sending to them these luxuries.

It was a matter of special interest to visit the Soldiers' Home, and as the men came in to their meals, see them reach out and take two or three potatoes each, as children often do. I have never heard the Sanitary Commission lauded more than on this trip.

Said one young man who had lost his leg, "Had it not been for the Sanitary Commission I should have died." Said an old man from Illinois, who was bringing away his own son and the sons of two neighbors, "I have worked for the Sanitary Commission always, but I shall go home and work with ten-fold the energy I have done formerly. I see what good it has done in ministering comfort to the sick and wounded, and saving life."

Said one, who had been in the hospital three months, "We had supplies from the Commission every day, and, but for that, it seems to me the men would have starved, being so weak and feeble we could not eat the Government rations."

Wrote a fine young man, who had lost one leg, "I cannot feel that I can leave these scenes that have so long surrounded me, without expressing my gratitude to the Sanitary Commission. I had heard that there was such an institution in the Army, but now I feel it; for I believe it has been the means of saving my life. I am an officer, (Captain, 10th Ill. Vol.,) and was in the same hospital as the privates, and we all alike received daily supplies from the Sanitary Commission. Wounded men need nutritious food, and it seems to me that many of the men must have died but for the timely aid they thus received."

I found one man not a member of the Sanitary Commission, but whose whole soul is in the good work of helping the soldier, who had gotten three bales of blankets from the Commission, just before the "cold spell" in January last, and who says: "I distributed those blankets singly, and gave them all to soldiers who had neither blanket nor overcoat. Some of the men shed tears of joy and gratitude as they left me."

Allow me to add my testimony, after visiting some twenty or thirty hospitals, and seeing hundreds of men, and talking with them; and my time, for two weeks, with one single day's exception, has been spent in constant inspection, and efforts to ascertain the efficiency of the Commission.

I fully believe that the waste or misapplication of goods sent to the Army by the U. S. Sanitary Commission does not amount to the one hundredth part of the whole. All hospitals are not exactly alike, but at the Field Hospital, in Nashville, in charge of Dr. M'Dermott, where some 2,000 patients now are, I believe not as

much waste occurs as in many of our large families at home. We, at the North, hear of the misapplication of a few articles, while the thousands that go directly to the men are not heard from.

The people at home may rest in the assurance that they are relieving multitudes of their sons and neighbors, and rather than relax in the least, when called on again, they should double their energies. CHAS. BUTLER.

## HOMES AND LODGES.

Reports for the month, from the following "Homes" and "Lodges," have reached us:

### WASHINGTON.

The number admitted to the "Home" during the month of February, was 623; number lodged, 3,096; number of meals given, 7,224—to men from twenty different States.

At the "Lodge," the number of applicants for collection of pay, was 180; and the amount collected, was $21,006.66—the applicants were from fifteen different States. The number of meals furnished, was 6,926; and the number of lodgings, 1,299.

At the "Home for Soldiers' Wives and Mothers," from December 26th to March 1st, there have been admitted 93 women and 31 children, from thirteen States. These women were entire strangers in the city, and in nearly every case without money.

### ALEXANDRIA.

The number of meals furnished at the "Lodge" in Alexandria during the month, was 1,450; number of lodgings, 239.

### BRASHER CITY.

At the "Home" in Brasher City, the number of men admitted during the two weeks, from the 1st to the 15th of February, was 257; number of meals furnished, 797; number of lodgings, 197.

### NASHVILLE.

At the Soldier's Home in Nashville, during the four weeks ending Feb. 27th, 7,406 meals and 3,581 lodgings were furnished to soldiers, from twenty-one different States. The average number cared for per day, was 929; transportation was procured for 1,859; pay drawn for 95; and the amount collected and paid over was $12,195.42.

### MEMPHIS.

At the Soldiers' Home in Memphis during the same time, 4,639 meals and 1,340 lodgings were furnished to soldiers, from seventeen different States. The average number cared for per day, was 1,625, and pay was drawn for 15.

### PENSION AGENCY.

The following is the report received from the above office, during the months of January and February:

Number of applications for pensions made out, 145; number of letters written, 681.

### BACK PAY.

The report of the Agent for procuring certificates for the back pay of invalid soldiers, in the Hospitals of Washington and vicinity, during the past month, shows the number of cases taken and completed, was 134; the number of letters written during the month, was 175, and the amount represented by the cases completed $6,766.24.

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We find the following in the *Elmira Daily Advertiser* of March 7th:

It is not at all surprising that as activity and interest on behalf of the Sanitary Commission increases, slander and detraction should also multiply, and the faith of many be shaken in the good accomplished by the efforts of the Commission. Under these circumstances a letter was written to Surgeon May, Hospital No. 1, Nashville, Tenn., by a friend of his, asking for his experience and observation in the matter. The answer was a detailed account of all the Commission had done for him, and for those to whom his observation had extended. For the sake of the doubtful public we are requested to publish a condensed statement of the facts contained in his letter:

"The very important matter concerning which you ask me my experience and observation, interests me very much, and I wish I could *tell* you all I feel, for the pen is too slow and dumb a tongue to do justice to this most noble, benevolent and comprehensive charity; and although I could grow eloquent on the Sanitary Commission—its aims, purposes, and expansiveness are too well known by every intelligent American to need my feeble encomiums—and I should be surprised, indeed, that any soldiers, for whose welfare alone the Commission was organized, should underrate its excellencies, were I not conscious that there are fault-finders and grumblers every where—the army being no exception.

"On the 13th of June, 1862, I arrived at the 'White House,' from the Chickahominy swamps, sick with fever, as helpless as a child, and was carried on a stretcher into the cabin of the Sanitary boat—the 'Elgin.' My aching head was bathed with bay rum, one lady placed an orange to my fevered lips, while another prepared a cup of tea and plate of toast; every attention and kindness was shown me by all—oh! I prayed in my heart that God would bless the Sanitary Commission. But at Gettysburg we learned to appreciate its great excellencies and wonderful resources. Within a few hours after the battle, stores of the Commission began to reach us; blankets, shirts, bandages, sponges, jellies, crackers, fruits and fresh bread were dealt out by ladies, to the wounded and the most needy. At the General Hospital, Camp Letterman, where there were one thousand eight hundred wounded men, we saw the more perfect working of the Commission. Here they had several large tents for storage of their supplies, Dr. Winslow, once rector of the Elmira Episcopal church, having them in charge. His aim was to carefully and economically distribute the goods intrusted to him—jellies, fruits, preserved meats, woolen and cotton goods, lint, bandages, sponges, splints, fans, crutches, canes, straw hats, dressing gowns, ap-

ples, oranges, lemons, and vegetables by the barrel, were poured out like water—not to surgeons and attendants—but to the wounded. Ladies drew these things, and a surgeon's order was always honored, and hundreds of poor sufferers were made comfortable by the thousand things lavished upon them by the kind hearts at home, through the Sanitary Commission.

"There were two surgeons' messes there, and at different times more than thirty surgeons on duty. Their tables were furnished from the Government kitchen, but they were taxed $3 per week, which went into the 'Hospital Fund,' to furnish luxuries for the sick. I have sat down many a time, tired and weary, to a meal of tough meat, cold coffee and dry bread, but would not for the world have gone to the Sanitary Commission for a thing belonging to those wounded heroes. Here in Nashville, the greatest care is observed in distributing Sanitary stores. Rev. Mr. Ingraham, brother to the author of 'Pillar of Fire,' and other works, is in charge, and during my sickness the past week there came along a lot of well packed luxuries from the Commission, at the very moment when your letter reached me, and I was reading what the defamers of the Commission were saying of it at home.

"We are proud of our loyal, patriotic North, for these great, spontaneous, successful Sanitary Fairs, and trust that you will not be discouraged, because a few crumbs may be spilled from your bountiful boxes and barrels, but rejoice that the bushels, and barrels, and baskets full go to cheer the hearts and heal the wounds of those noble boys who bare their breasts to the shock of battle to save our homes and country.

"SURGEON HENRY MAY,
*"Nashville."*

## GEN. MEADE ON THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

THE WOUNDED AT THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
*Friday, April* 8, 1864.

L. MONTGOMERY BOND, ESQ.:

DEAR SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 6th instant, enclosing circulars of the "Committee on Labor, Incomes and Revenues" of the Great Central Fair for the United States Sanitary Commission. I feel very much flattered and complimented at the honor conferred on me, by placing my name as one of the honorary members of this important Committee.

It is hardly necessary for me to assure you, that I am with you heart and soul, in the great work of benevolence and charity, which you have entered on.

It has been my duty to make inquiry as to the practical working and benefit of the United States Sanitary Commission, and it affords me great pleasure to bear testimony, so far as this Army is concerned, to the inestimable benefits and blessings conferred by this noble Association on the suffering sick, and wounded soldiers.

A few facts in connection with this point may be of use to you.

At the battle of Gettysburgh, the number of wounded of our own Army alone amounted, by official reports, to thirteen thousand seven hundred and thirteen (13,713); those of the enemy left on the field, were estimated by our medical officers, as amounting to eight thousand. This would make in all, nearly twenty-two thousand suffering beings, requiring immediate care and attention to save life.

Few people can realize such large numbers, but if you tell them, that should they fill and pack your Academy of Music in Philadelphia, (which holds, I believe, some thirty-five hundred people,) *six times*, and then imagine every soul in this immense crowd wounded, they will have a chance idea of the great work for humanity on the field of Gettysburgh.

Now, although the Government is most liberal and generous in all its provisions for the sick and wounded, yet it is impossible to keep *constantly on hand* either the *personnel* or supplies required in an emergency of this kind.

In addition to this difficulty at Gettysburgh, I was compelled to pursue the retreating foe, and, as I expected, in a few days, to have another battle a some distant point, it was absolutely necessary that I should carry away the greater portion of my Surgeons and medical supplies, so that the wounded at Gettysburg were, in a measure, dependent upon such extra assistance as the Government could hastily collect, and upon the generous aid so cheerfully and promptly afforded by the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, and the various State and Soldiers' Aid Societies. All the additional aid from every source was here most urgently needed, and it gives me great pleasure to say that, from the reports of my medical officers, I am satified the United States Sanitary Commission, as well as the others above-named, were fully up to the work before them.

What has occurred in the past, may occur in the future. There is no nobler or holier work of Christian love or charity, and if the voices of the brave soldiers are of any influence, you may rest assured you have their hearty wishes and earnest prayers.

Most respectfully and truly yours,
GEORGE G. MEADE,
*Major-General Commanding Army of the Potomac.*

## WESTERN SCENES.—No. 2.

WOMEN IN AHE HARVEST-FIELD.

Of late we have been called much into the country. Every week since the harvest commenced, we have been more or less into the great farming districts of our beautiful prairie land, and have seen for ourself how busy a time the harvest season is to the farmers. It has

seemed to us, as we have rushed along on the railroad for forty, sixty, a hundred or a hundred and fifty miles, let our course lie in whatever direction it might, that our way has always led through one continuous wheat field. Everywhere the golden grain was waving, and the two-horse reapers, cutting it down in a wholesale fashion, that would astonish a New England farmer, could be counted by hundreds in a ride of half a dozen hours. The crops are generally good, and in some instances heavy, and every man and boy are pressed into the service, to secure the abundant harvest.

More than this, we found women extensively in the field, driving the reapers, and binding, shocking and loading the grain—an unusual sight to our eyes. At first, we were displeased with it, and turned away in aversion. By and by, we came to observe how skillfully they drove the horses around and around the wheat field, diminishing more and more its periphery at every circuit, the glittering blades of the reaper cutting wide swathes with a crisp, craunching sound, that it was pleasant to hear. Then, also, we saw that when they followed the reapers, binding and shocking, although they did not keep up with the men, yet their work was done with more precision and nicety, and the sheaves had an artistic finish that the others lacked. So we said to ourself, "they are worthy women, and deserve praise; their husbands are probably too poor to hire help, and so like the helpmeets God designed them to be, they have girt themselves to the work of men, and *are* doing it famously. Good wives! good women!"

Sometimes in our journeys, our route has led off from the railroad, across the country, six, ten and twenty miles—and always, and ever, through the same fields of yellow grain, and green, waving corn. Now a river shimmered like silver through the gold of the wheat and the oats—and now a fine growth of young timber made a dark green back-ground for the harvest fields. And here, as everywhere, in greater or less numbers, women were busy at the harvesting. On one occasion, the carriage came to a halt opposite a field where some half a dozen women were harvesting with two men, and not a little curious to know what these female reapers were like, we walked over and accosted them.

"And so you are helping to gather the harvest," we said to a woman of forty-five, who sat on the reaper to drive, as she stopped her horses for a brief rest. Her face was pleasant and comely, although sun-burned, with honest, straight-forward eyes, a broad brow, and a mouth of more sweetness than firmness. Her dress, a dark calico, without hoops, strong shoes and a shaker.

"Yes, ma'am," she said; "the men have all gone to the war, so that my man can't hire help, and I told my girls, we must turn to, and give him a lift with the harvestin'."

"Have you sons in the army?"

"Yes, ma'am," and a shadow fell over the motherly face; "all three of 'em 'listed, and Neddy, the youngest was killed at Stone River, the last day of last year. We've money enough to hire help, if it could be had, and my man don't like for me and the girls to be workin' out o' doors; but there don't seem no help for it now."

We stepped over where the "girls" were binding the fallen grain. They were fine lassies, with the sweet eyes and honest mouth of the mother, but brown like her, and clad in the same sensible costume.

"Well, it seems that you, like your mother, are not afraid to lend a hand at the harvesting?"

"No, we're willing to help out doors in these times. My three brothers are in the army, my cousins, and most of the men we used to hire—so that there's no help to be got but women's, and the crops must be got in, you know, all the same."

"I tell mother," said another of the girls, "as long as the country can't get along without grain, nor the army fight without food, that we're serving the country just as much here in the harvest-field, as our boys are in the battle-field, and that sort o' takes the edge off from this business of doing men's work, you know," and a hearty laugh followed this statement.

Another was the wife of one of the soldier sons, with a three year old boy toddling beside her, tumbling among the sheaves, getting into mischief every five minutes, and "causing more plague than profit," as his mother declared. From her came the same hearty assent to this new work which the strait of the country had imposed upon her, and she added, with a kind of homely pride, that "she was considered as good a binder as a man, and could keep up with the best of 'em. I, for my part," she continued, "am willing to do anything to help along in these war times."

We would have talked longer with these women, who were now invested with a new and heroic interest—but the driver calling out that he had mended the broken harness, and was ready to go on, we could only assure them "that they were worthy of the days of the Revolution, and that we were proud to have met them," and bade them "good-by."

Now we saw things with different eyes. No

longer were the women of the harvest-field an unwelcome sight. Patriotism inspired them to the unusual work, and each brown, hard-handed, toiling woman was a heroine. Their husbands and sons had left the plow in the furrow, and the reaper in the grain, at the anguished call of the country, and these noble women had loyally bidden them "God-speed!" and without weak murmuring or complaint had put their own shoulders to the hard, rough farm-work, feeling that thus they also served the common cause. Yes, and amid all this weary labor, these women find time for the manufacture of hospital supplies, which come, box after box, filled with shirts and drawers, dried apples and pickles, currant wine and blackberry jam, to be forwarded to the poor fellows languishing in far-off Southern hospitals. All honor to the farmers' wives and daughters of the great Northwest! "Many women have done virtuously, but these excel them all!"—*Mrs. Livermore.*

## PLAN FOR THE FORMATION OF SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETIES.

We publish, by request, the following plan for the formation of Soldier's Aid Societies, prepared by the Woman's Central Association of Relief, Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in New York. It has been in successful operation for the past nine months in parts of Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and the State of New York:

### SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETIES.

Individual and desultory labor accomplishes but little, compared with that which is systematized and concentrated. One earnest woman, whose heart responds to the appeals made in behalf of our sick and wounded soldiers, can do more for them by enlisting the active sympathy and co-operation of her friends and neighbors than by days and nights of unassisted toil.

Let her call together three or four of the most patriotic and energetic women in the village, and consult with them as to the feasibility of forming a *Soldier's Aid Society.* Let them determine upon a day and place for public meeting, to which all the women and young girls of the neighborhood shall be invited. The Pastors of every church should be requested to give this invitation from their pulpits on the ensuing Sunday; a short notice should be put up at the Post-Office, and, if possible, in the county paper.

It may be well to ask a gentleman, conversant with the ordinary rules of conducting meetings, to preside on this occasion. His advice in regard to the forms by which the officers of the society should be elected, order of business, &c., will be valuable for those who are unaccustomed to it. This formality, which may appear unnecessary to some, is, in reality, important to any efficient action on the part of a society. Every Soldier's Aid Society, however small, should have its regular "order of business," and go through with it at every meeting.

The following is suggested as a

*Plan of Organization for Country Societies:*

The name of this Society shall be the SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETY OF ———.

Its object is to provide supplies for the aid and comfort of the sick and wounded soldiers of the United States Army.

Its officers shall consist of a

President,
Five Vice-Presidents,
Secretary and Treasurer (the same person),
Committee on Cutting (five members),
Committee on Packing (five members),

There shall be an annual election for officers. All vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled by the *President.*

The *President* shall preside at the meetings, and have the general interests of the Society in charge. She shall purchase all materials, and, at every monthly meeting, after consultation with the Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer, present a plan of work for the ensuing month.

The *Vice-Presidents* shall (one of them,) preside in the absence of the President. They, in connection with the President and Secretary, shall devise ways and means for improving and increasing the usefulness and efficiency of the Society. At the meetings the Vice-Presidents shall distribute the work, have the general supervision of it, and collect it again. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Presidents to canvass the village and neighborhood, for the purpose of obtaining as many members as possible. A division into districts, will facilitate the work, They should explain the objects of the Society, and endeavor to enlist the sympathies of all in its behalf. The names and Post-office address of all members are to be recorded in a book, kept for that purpose, by the Secretary. No membership fee shall be required.

The *Secretary* and *Treasurer* shall keep all the books of the Society, conduct the correspondence with that Branch of the Sanitary Commission to which the supplies may be sent, and attend to any other writing which may be necessary, such as serving notices, etc. She shall write to the Commission for any information which may be desired by any one member of the Society. She shall give a receipt, keep an account, and be responsible for all moneys received by her; shall pay all bills marked "correct," and signed by the President or any one of the Vice-Presidents; make a statement at every monthly meeting, of the condition of the treasury, and, at the end of every three months, present a quarterly report, giving in detail the amount of work accomplished and where sent, money received and expended, number of members, average attendance, and any other information which may be desired and interesting. At every meeting the Secretary shall record the names of those members present.

The *Cutting Committee* shall cut out all material according to approved patterns, and shall have a sufficient quantity of work prepared for every meeting.

The *Packing Committee* shall elect its own Chairman, who is to make a detailed and accurate list of the contents of each box *while it is being packed.* The list should have the name of the Society written upon it, with the name and Post-office address of the Secretary, and should be placed just under the cover of the box or

barrel. A duplicate of this invoice must be sent without delay to the Secretary, who will notify the Sanitary Commission, by letter, of every consignment, enclosing a list of the contents of each package. Every box or package should be clearly directed and *marked on the outside with the name of the town or village from which it is sent.*

Directions in regard to packing may be found in the circulars of all the branches of the sanitary Commission. (When sending to New York, the freight charges will be paid upon delivery at No. 10, Cooper Union.)

Meetings shall be held once a fortnight, or once a week, at the option of the Society. It is better, when practicable, to have them held in some regular place of assembling—the town hall, court-house, public school-house, the vestry of a church, &c.

MEETINGS.

*Order of Business.*

I. After the work has been distributed, the President shall call the meeting to order, and open it by calling the roll of all the members of the Society, made out alphabetically—those present answering to their names.

II. The President shall read the names of those members present at the previous meeting.

III. Report of Secretary and Treasurer.

IV. Report of Cutting Committee, (number of garments cut).

V. Report of Packing Committee.

VI. The President, or any member deputed by her, shall read any letters or printed matter lately received from the Sanitary Commission.

VII. At monthly meetings the President shall present a plan of work for the ensuing month.

VIII. Miscellaneous business.

HOW IS THE TREASURY TO BE SUPPLIED?

The following plan for supplying the Treasury of Village Societies has been in successful operation for the past two years, in parts of the State of New York and elsewhere:

It depends for its efficiency upon the zeal and activity of the *young people*, who form themselves into an association having for its object the *collection of funds*. We want the little girls, and older ones, too, who often ask us "if there is any thing *they* can do for the soldiers," to feel that we are now answering their questions and speaking directly to them.

As the "Alert Club," composed of the little girls and young people of Norwalk, Ohio, has been one of the most active and successful of these associations—collecting $560.12 in seven months, from a little village of only about two thousand inhabitants, and no really wealthy men among them—it is proposed that their name should be adopted for all similar organizations.

The following plan is taken almost entirely from a newspaper article, published by the Soldier's Aid Society of Northern Ohio, Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission:

ALERT CLUB.

The object of the Alert Club is to furnish the Soldier's Aid Society with funds to carry on its operations, and all moneys collected for this purpose are to be unconditionally paid into the Treasury of the Parent Society.

The Club should have a President, Secretary, two Treasurers, and forty Collectors.

The Club appoints its own Collectors, who hold office for one year, unless re-elected. There is also an annual election for President, Secretary, and Treasurers. The President shall fill all vacancies which may occur during the year.

The President shall preside at the meetings, call the roll of the members—those present answering to their names—and shall read aloud the names of those members present at the previous meeting. She shall also read any letters or printed matter which may have been received from the Secretary of the Parent Society.

The Secretary of the Club shall record the names and address of all members, and at every meeting register the names of those present. The Secretary shall make an annual report to the President of the Soldier's Aid Society, at the annual meeting of the Society.

The President is to divide the village and neighborhood into ten districts. Four collectors are then appointed for each district—two for the "ladies' monthly," and two for the "gentlemen's monthly." They are to obtain subscriptions of twenty cents per month among the ladies, and from the gentlemen a monthly subscription of as much as each subscriber is willing to place against his name. The collectors are to call at every house in their respective districts. Every two collectors will be furnished with a little book, in which the names of their subscribers and the sums collected will be entered. The President of the Club will receive books and pencils for this purpose from the Treasurer of the Soldier's Aid Society, who will gladly give the Club any assistance it may need, and whose interest, aid, and encouragement may always be relied upon.

The collectors are to go with their books to every subscriber immediately after the first Monday of every month, and on the following Saturday render their accounts to the Treasurers of the Club, who shall examine them, record the result in each case, in a book kept for the purpose, and pay over the sums collected to the Treasurer of the Parent Society—not later than the following Monday.

The Alert Club shall hold its monthly meetings on those Saturdays when the collectors make their returns. If desired, meetings may be held every fortnight. At their meetings they make slippers, piece quilts and quilt them, and perform such other services as their officers or the Parent Society may suggest. But the main object of the Association being *the collection of funds*, they are not expected to burden themselves by other labor.

Where Clubs have been particularly "on the alert," they have interested themselves in getting up entertainments, concerts, tableaux, strawberry parties, etc., besides the monthly subscriptions, and have materially increased the funds of the Society in this way.

L. L. S.

*June 8th*, 1863.

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At the formation of an Alert Club, it has been found best for the officers of the Club to make the first call at every house, for the purpose of explaining the object of it, and to obtain the names of subscribers. This is only necessary to be done once. The collectors will immediately after make their first round.

## THE VITAL AND SANITARY STATISTICS OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN INDIA, COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE FRENCH TROOPS, UNDER LIKE CONDITIONS OF CLIMATE AND LOCALITY.

(Continued from page 309.)

### *The Sanitary Ameliorations of the Sickness and Mortality effected of late Years.*

I find, in regard to the health of the British Army at home, exclusive of the Horse Artillery, that for fifteen years, previous to 1854, the average death-rate was 14.7, and that of invaliding, 32.3 per 1,000; but that in 1860, and since the practical application of sanitary measures, adapted to climate and locality, these rates have respectively fallen to 7.32 and 21.30,* indicating a gain to the effective strength of 18.38 per 1,000. The proportion admitted for enthetic (or syphilitic) diseases, and constantly in hospital, was 23.69 per 1,000. In the hot climates of Jamaica, Ceylon, and Mauritius, where, from the 1st of January, 1830, to the 31st March, 1837, the death-rates were 91.49 and 34.6 respectively; these had fallen, in the year 1860, to 20.2, 19.6, and 23.8 per 1,000.

With the introduction into India of improved sanitary improvements, adapted to climate and localities, with restraints on vice and intemperance, corresponding decreasing rates, to indicate augmented health among our troops, must follow as natural results. The present army medical statistics, in reference to India, as I stated in my evidence, are not of any value in determining the question of how much reduction in the rates of mortality may be ultimately effected for that country; for, when uncombined with meteorological and medical observations, on the physiological and pathological effects of localities and climate, and classified arrangement of the prevailing endemic diseases, they are but relative proofs of hitherto unremoved sources of such diseases. The first right step in this direction was the organization of a statistical branch of the medical department of the army, with the introduction of new forms of returns, after the report of the Sanitary Commission of 1858; but a sufficient period has not yet elapsed for the production of those accurate and trustworthy statistical data, which we may confidently look for in the course of time.

Nevertheless well marked reductions in the death-rates of English troops, serving abroad, have been effected. During the period anterior to 1836, the rates for the Mediterranean stood as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gibraltar | 22.0 | deaths per 1,000 men. |
| Malta | 18.7 | " |
| Ionian Islands | 23.3 | " |
| Mean death-rate | 23.5 | |

* See pp. 16 and 141 of the "Army Sanitary Report," 1860.

During the period from 1844 to March, 1846, the mortality had fallen to the following numbers:

| | Effective Mean Strength. | Mortality. 1844. | 1845. | Total. | Death rate per 1,000 men. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gibraltar | 3,371 | 41 | 41 | 82 | 12.2 |
| Malta | 1,858 | 36 | 31 | 67 | 18. |
| Ionian Islands | 2,537 | 35 | 33 | 68 | 13.4 |
| Total for the Mediterranean | 7,766 | 112 | 105 | 217 | 14.5 |

For the period again, 1859 and 1860, the diminution stood thus:

| | Effective Mean Strength. | Mortality. 1859. | 1860. | Death rate per 1,000 men. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gibraltar | 5,381 | 40 | 62 | 9.41 |
| Malta | 5,630 | 101 | 63 | 18.8 |
| Ionian Islands | 3,875 | 46 | 29 | 9.8 |
| Mediterranean | 14,886 | 187 | 154 | 12.6 |

The results of these two last periods present in their favor, when compared with 1836, the following diminution of the mortality:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gibraltar | 11.2 | deaths per 1,000 |
| Malta | 0.3 | " |
| The Ionian Islands | 11.2 | " |
| Mean for Mediterranean | 7.5 | " |

The annual mean difference being a gain of 16 men per 1,000 of the effective strength in our healthy colonial commands.

Turning to British possessions, reputed the most unhealthy, we find according to Sir A. Tulloch's statistical investigations, and the Army Report, 1860, that the results of sanitary ameliorations there have been yet more striking and satisfactory; and have followed measures for abandoning low, undrained, and filthy stations, and occupying the higher ground as the sites of well constructed barracks and hospitals, with attention to all other sanitary precautions, that have of late years been deemed necessary for securing the health of our soldiers abroad. The colonies, in which such improvements have been carried out, are Mauritius, Jamaica, the Antilles, with British Guiana, and Ceylon. Previous to 1836, the mean mortality of our forces occupying these colonies, was 84.2 per 1,000; which, during the period of 1844-45, on an effective strength of 7,194 men, had been reduced to 42.1 per 1,000; and in the last year, 1860, for which we have authentic returns, the mean mortality, including invalid deaths of the four stations, was only 17.57 per 1,000 of the effective mean strength. In applying the mortality-rate, before 1836, to an effective strength of 7,194 men, it will be found that we permitted 1,212 of these to die annually; but from

1844 to 1845, only 606 died; and in 1860 less than 303, being more than an annual saving of life of 1,000 men for every effective force of 7,194 soldiers. In proof of the mortality-rate for 1860, it may be well to here append, from the "Army Statistical Report," the particulars of these four colonies:

| | Effective Mean Strength. | Mortality. 1860. | Death-rate per 1,000. Mean. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mauritius..... | 1,886 | 45 | 23.86 |
| Jamaica..... | 594 | 12 | 20.20 |
| Antilles and Guiana | 1,255 | 7 | 5.58 |
| Ceylon..... | 916 | 18 | 19.65 |
| Total..... | 4,651 | 82 | 17.17 |

With regard to India it is, as M. Boudin remarks, that part of the English Army over which military authority has not hitherto exercised any control, regarding the choice of places of encampment, or the duration of residence in certain insalubrious localities, and the relief of the troops. I would speak, says he, of the East Indian Army, as that part of the British Army, which is far from having gone through those sanitary ameliorations, which have comparatively followed the rules of *hygiène*. The following table epitomizes, for the years 1845 and 1846, the effective strength of European troops, and the rate of mortality, in each of the three presidencies of Bombay, Madras, and Bengal:

| | | Effective. | Deaths. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bombay, | 1845..... | 6,324 | 824 |
| " | '46..... | 4,710 | 337 |
| Madras, | 1845..... | 7,859 | 276 |
| " | '46..... | 7,535 | 351 |
| Bengal, | 1844..... | 11,003 | 1,028 |
| " | '45..... | 11,280 | 984 |
| | Total..... | 48,702 | 3,800 |

According to this document it follows that from an effective force of 24,351 men, 1,000 are lost annually by death, or 78 men per 1,000. Now, though M. Boudin is perfectly correct as to the rate per 1,000 during those years, yet they formed the period of the Sikh War, and 27 or 28 for casualties of wounds, and war service in climates not Indian, ought to have been deducted therefrom, leaving the mortality, from natural causes, at 50 per 1,000. This is a further illustration of the necessity of avoiding all sweeping conclusions, as to the mortality-rate, without perfect records and knowledge of all contingencies influencing the results. Still the mortality-rate of 50 per 1,000, as caused by preventible causes, is much beyond what it ought to be for India. The Commissioners' Sanitary Report of 1863 presents, on this subject, an overwhelming amount of evidence, and without exaggeration shows that in India there has been a fatal neglect of the conditions which injure the health of soldiers and increase the mortality; and that the Indian Government have not hitherto carried out what was essential to improve the sanitary military state and well-being of their soldiers.

It is but just to say, however, that no inconsiderable ameliorations of their sanitary state have been effected of late years, as the following statistical data indicate. The death-rate for five years, 1850-54, stood as follows for the three presidencies:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bombay..... | 26.09 | deaths per 1,000 men. |
| Madras..... | 39.76 | " |
| Bengal..... | 55.56 | " |
| Mean..... | 40.4 | " |

In 1860, these proportions for the British Army, including invalids, were considerably reduced, giving a mean diminution of 9.3 per 1,000 of our soldiers. The admissions and deaths occurred in the following proportions, the mean mortality ratio per 1,000 being less than that in Table VI for 1861:

| | Average Strength. | Admissions into Hospit'l | Deaths. | | | Ratio per 1,000 of Mean Strength. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | In India. | Of Invalids. | Total. | Admitted. | Died. |
| Bombay | 11,388 | 22,013 | 332 | 29 | 361 | 1,933 | 31.70 |
| Madras. | 10,696 | 15,991 | 193 | 49 | 242 | 1,487 | 22.63 |
| Bengal. | 42,371 | 85,693 | 1,569 | 99 | 1,663 | 2,023 | 39.37 |
| Total.... | 64,455 | 123,697 | 2,094 | 197 | 2,271 | 5,643 | 31.1 |

In thus reviewing the rates of Indian mortality, and the sanitary ameliorations effected of late years for the British Army, let us turn for a moment to consider the statistics of French military mortality under like conditions of climate and locality. I have already noticed that, for their tropical settlements of America and Africa, Table II sets down their mean mortality for ten years, 1838 to 1847, at 69.5 per 1,000. While the mean mortality of the civil population of France, at the soldier's age, is 12 per 1,000, that of the infantry of the line rises to 22.3. From 1819 to 1838, this in Senegal became 123.8, in Guadaloupe 101.3, in Martinique 102.8, in French Guiana 32.3, and in Bourbon 25.6 per 1,000. In Algeria, on an effective strength of 108,000 men for ten years, from 1837 to 1846, the mean death-rate was 75.8 per 1,000; from which probably the average casualty-rate for war and service ought to be deducted. This would reduce the mortality to nearly the same standard as for India; but whether such reduction is allowable, I know not, being altogether ignorant of the contingencies of that period. M. Boudin, however, adds that the simple comparison of the results, with those among English troops, proves better than all reasoning how much of the way is yet open for the

French to accomplish in regard to military *hygiène*. In Table VII, which I have copied from him, regarding the losses of the French troops in Algeria, 1846, it would appear that from an effective of 99,700 men, the deaths in the African Hospitals were 6.88 per 1,000; and that the other casualties of discharged and sent to France, killed in battle, deaths in the hospitals of France, pensioned and invalided, amounted to 28.3; and would raise the total decrements of the troops to 97.1 per 1,000.

TABLE VII.—*Of the Losses of the French Troops in Algeria, for* 1846, *on a Mean Effective Strength of* 99,700 *Men.*

| | Numbers. | Ratio per 1,000 Strength. |
|---|---|---|
| Admitted into the African Hospitals | 121,138 | .. |
| Number of days under treatment in Africa | 2,497,181 | .. |
| Discharged and sent to France. | 2,089 | 20.9 |
| Deaths in the African Hospitals | 6,862 | 68.8 |
| Killed in battle | 116 | 1.1 |
| Deaths in the Hospit's of France | 246 | 2.4 |
| Pensioned | 130 | 1.5 |
| Invalided | 267 | 2.6 |

*The Sanitary Measures still necessary for English Troops in India.*

My great object by the preceding observations has been to show "that the present death-rate for the whole of India," instead of being 69 per 1,000, as assumed in the Sanitary Commissioners' Report, has been, for many years past, little more than half this rate of death from ordinary and natural causes; inasmuch as the above-mentioned high rate is not simply the *mortality*, but includes other rates of *decrement* from the effective strength, as those of *invaliding*, and of *extraordinary war-service*, in climates and localities not Indian. The high death-rate given is that of Bengal European troops, rather than that of soldiers serving at Madras and Bombay. It was chiefly caused by extraordinary war-service of the former, during the Cabul Massacre and Afghan War, and in the Burmese and Chinese Campaigns. A comparison, then, of the death-rate of troops, so employed out of India, with the death-rate of troops more comfortably housed, and adequately provided in the garrisons and stations of India, is manifestly a vague representation of Indian mortality, and must necessarily mislead as to what that rate is. At the commencement of the report the death-rate among the Company's troops, including invalids, from 1800 to 1856, is stated at 69 per 1,000; but while recapitulating this statement, at p. 165, it is said:

"*The annual death-rate for the whole of India has hitherto been about* 69 *per* 1,000. *The proposed European establishment is* 73,000 *men, and will, at the present rate of mortality, require* 5,037 *recruits per annum, to fill up the vacancies caused by death alone.*"

This rate of decrement, for both *mortality* and *invaliding*, might be certainly taken as a basis for correctly estimating the number of recruits hitherto necessary to fill up vacancies, but is not so far the mortality alone. Indeed, there is good reason to believe that 2,518, or half the Commissioners' figures, would be sufficient to make good the annual losses by death; and are yet further susceptible of great reduction, by the introduction into India of improved sanitary appliances, adapted to climate, locality, and seasons, and with restraints on vice and intemperance. By the latest return of the British Army in India, exclusive of the late Company's troops, the death-rate had sunk to 35.3 per 1,000; and the invaliding, with deaths on the passage home, caused a further loss of 33.3 per 1,000; being altogether a decrement of the whole strength of 68.6 per 1,000. Invaliding, even at home, has hitherto caused a decrement of 32.3 per 1,000, so that this cause of loss in India is not greatly in excess.

While I have thus fairly stated my objections to the manner in which the Commissioners' Report has brought forward the death-rate of India, as hitherto, 69 per 1,000, I cannot help noticing the inconsistency of this assumption with the facts set forth in other tables, appended to the report; Table IV of which shows that, for all India, 1847-56, it was only 51 per 1,000. This was seven years ago; and from which time the ameliorations have been progressive.

In regard to the other matters of the report, the causes of sickness and mortality, and the means of preventing them, I entirely agree with the view taken by the Commissioners. 1st. That by far the larger proportion of the mortality and inefficiency of the Indian Army has arisen from *endemic diseases*, and notably from fevers, diarrhea, dysentery, cholera, and from diseases of the liver. 2d. That the predisposition to these diseases is, in part, attributable to *malaria*, in conjunction with extremes of temperance, moisture, and variability. 3d. But that there are other causes of a very active kind in India, connected with *stations, barracks, hospitals*, and the *habits* of the men, of the same nature as those which are known, in colder climates, to occasion attacks of these very diseases, from which the Indian Army suffers so severely. In examining into these causes, we find, say they that the stations, generally have been selected without reference to health, and mainly from accidental circumstances, or for political and military reasons. Many of them are situated at low, damp, unhealthy positions, deficient in means of natural drainage, or on river banks, close to unwholesome native cities or towns. Both barracks and hospitals are built at, or close to, the level of the ground, without any thorough draught between the floors and

the ground. And the men, both in barrack rooms and sick wards, are exposed to damp and malaria from this cause, as well as from want of drainage. The ventilation is generally imperfect, and from the arrangement of doors and windows, men are exposed to hurtful draughts. Many of the rooms are too high, and, as a consequence, there is much *surface overcrowding* both in barracks and hospitals, *although with large cubic space.**

The greater or less *sickness and mortality* of all races in India are in proportion to the bad or good sanitary conditions, with moderate elevation of the site and localities where they live; and, in the present state of Indian drainage and agriculture, the Commissioners truly say, "that for all practical purposes, heat, moisture, and malaria are constantly present, and everywhere influencing the sanitary condition of the country, aided by filthiness of the stations, impurity of the air in certain stagnant states of the atmosphere, by surface overcrowding and want of ventilation in a barrack, by impurity of the water supplied, and occasionally unsuitable diet."

No stronger evidence can be given in support of the truth of the above conclusions, that those are the chief causes of disease among European soldiers in India; that the statistical data which show the rates of sickness and mortality, *from miasmic diseases*, are greater or less in proportion to the *unimproved* or *improved* sanitary condition of places and localities. In the Bengal and Northwest presidencies, the most malarious districts of India, the mortality for Dum Dum and Calcutta is cited at 77 per 1,000; at Hazareebaugh, 1,900 feet above the sea, during two years, 34 in 1,000; at Meerut, for nineteen years, 32 per 1,000, and Jullunder, 37 per 1,000.

The most frequent cause of epidemic outbreaks of Indian cholera and fever will, I believe, be found in certain stagnant conditions of the atmosphere, which favor the *accumulation of putrid animal matter* in the air of barracks and of stations, rendering it impure. When, in addition to this cause, bad food and bad water are allowed to contribute their share in impairing the nutrition of the system, and sapping the foundation of bodily strength among troops, the very worst features of sickness and mortality among them become manifest. These facts are prominently set forth in Dr. Hathway's Punjaub Sanitary Report, lately published; where he judiciously recommends that all barracks should be provided with flues, and that the barrack air should be, at all times, tested by an instrument invented by Dr. Angus Smith.

The great defect, in most Indian barracks, is that the *superficial area* per bed by no means corresponds with the cubic contents, and is sure to be followed by all the disastrous effects of *surface overcrowding*, when larger numbers of European soldiers are assembled at stations, than can be conveniently accommodated in the barracks and hospitals.

European troops are exposed to other causes of disease than those before enumerated; such as *intemperance* and *syphilitic* diseases. And while both greatly increase the numbers on the sick list, they ultimately tend to swell the rates of *mortality* and *invaliding*. They are not, indeed, the more *immediate* and *chief causes* of Indian mortality, though contributing largely to it, and should never be allowed to withdraw sanitary attention from those more general and prominent causes of sickness and mortality that require special measures of prevention.

With a view of removing all preventible causes of disease in India, the Commissioners' recommendations are embodied in thirty-nine suggestions, which are set down without any order as to the importance or priority of either. Having endeavored to point out, in the preceding observations, that diseases of miasmatic origin are the main causes of the mortality, I may enumerate in abstract the more prominent of these suggestions, and in their relative order of importance.

*First.* As to *morbid causes*, associated with *season*, *localities*, and *barracks*, the Commissioners recommend—

That no recruit be sent to India under twenty-one years of age, nor until he has completed his drill at home; and that recruits be sent direct from home to India so as to land there early in November.

That the strategical points of the country which must be occupied, be now fixed, with special reference to reducing, as far as possible, the number of unhealthy stations to be occupied.

That hill stations, or stations on elevated ground, be provided; and that a third part of the force be there located in rotation.

That the period of service be only ten years in India.

And, That the sanitary regulations, now in force in England, be applied to India, along with the extension, to all Indian stations, of the present system of army statistics, and a code of sanitary regulations issued under authority.

In connection with this part of the subject there are also recommendations for remedying defective drainage, for supplying pure water, for erecting barracks and hospitals on raised basements, with air circulating under the floors; that the ventilation of barracks and hospitals be sufficiently secured, independently of doors and windows; and that ablution and bath accom-

* "Report of the Commissioners, with Précis of Evidence," 8vo., pp. 160—162.

modation be provided for both these classes of buildings.

*Second.* In regard to *dietetic errors* and *clothing*, they recommend—

That no spirits be issued to troops on board ship, except on the recommendation of the medical officer in charge.

That the sale of spirits at canteens be discontinued, except in specific cases, on the recommendation of the medical officer, and only malt liquor or light wines allowed.

That the rations be modified to suit the season; and that flannel be introduced as under-clothing, and a better system of supplying boots introduced.

That the hospital diet tables, in use at home stations, be adopted in India, as far as practicable, and the hospitals supplied with properly-trained cooks.

*Third.* In regard to *exercise* and *recreation*, it is recommended—

That the means of instruction and recreation be extended to meet the requirements of each station. That covered sheds for exercise and gymnastics be provided, and that such gymnastic exercises be made a parade. That reading-rooms, with books and periodicals, be provided, and lighted at night. That only coffee, tea and other non-intoxicating drinks be sold to the men at those rooms. And that workshops and soldiers' gardens be established, in connection with the stations, wherever practicable. And lastly, that soldiers of good character should be selected and educated for subordinate offices of the administrative departments.

*Fourthly.* That, with the most reasonable hope of *lessening intemperance*, and *diminishing* the *prevalence of syphilitic diseases*, the soldiers' condition in the way of occupation, instruction, and recreation be improved, as the most moral and rational means of leading men away from the canteen and vice. They also recommend that additional means of cleanliness should be provided for the men in all barrack lavatories; and that the *reorganization of repressive measures of police*, formerly adopted in the three presidencies, for lessening the scourge of syphilitic diseases, should be carried out, according to the necessities of each locality. Although police supervision of prostitution for the large cities of Europe has proved an entire failure, yet the condition of native society in India is such as to promise better and less embarrassing expectations of success.

*Fifthly.* That, in order to secure the gradual introduction of the above-mentioned sanitary improvements for barracks, hospitals, and stations, whether at the seats of Government, or throughout towns in proximity to military stations, "*Commissions of Public Health*" should be appointed, and that they should be so constituted as to represent the various elements of civil, military, engineering, medical and sanitary knowledge.

Sir Hugh Rose, the Commander-in-Chief in India, by issuing orders, in July last, headed "Sanitary and Conservancy Regulations," has, in a great measure, anticipated the practical execution of this last recommendation for Bengal, where it was most needed, and will probably be followed by correspondingly successful results.

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☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

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## FIRE AND LIFE

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*45 William Street, New York.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Capital and accumulations, | $7,832,171.06 |
| Net profits added to Capital in 1863, | 743,128.98 |

Premiums received in 1863,

| | |
|---|---|
| Fire, | $2,610,510.43 |
| Life, | 719,703.35 |

Losses paid in 1863,

| | |
|---|---|
| Fire, | $1,494,592.35 |
| Life, | 347,903.30 |

Total losses paid from 1836 to 1863,

| | |
|---|---|
| Fire, | $11,331,697.98 |
| Life, | 3,362,685.52 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Dividend paid, 1863, free of income tax, | 40 per cent. |

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No portion either of the capital or of the income of the "Globe Insurance Company," now in course of amalgamation with the "Liverpool and London," is included in this statement.

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March 19th, 1864.

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**CASH CAPITAL, - - - $1,000,000.**

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| | |
|---|---|
| Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864 | $3,140,930 80 |
| Total Amount of Premiums | 3,252,256 76 |
| Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c. | 1,137,063 33 |
| Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies | 441,206 49 |
| Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not | 269,614 80 |
| Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums | 15 per cent. |
| Dividend for the Year to Stockholders | 26 per cent. |

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3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

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| THOS. BARRON, | JOHN D. BATES, JR., | HENRY J. CAMMANN, |
| ROLAND G. MITCHELL, | CHARLES HICKOX, | THOMAS LORD, |
| ALBERT G. LEE, | ROBERT BOWNE, | ROBERT S. HOLT, |
| GEORGE P. DESHON, | LAWRENCE MYERS, | J. B. GRIFFIN. |
| O. L. NIMS, | S. N. DERRICK, | |

THOS. LORD, Vice-President. B. C. MORRIS, President.

WM. M. WHITNEY 2d Vice-President and Secretary.

# PARTICIPATION

FIRE INSURANCE.

# NORTH AMERICAN

# FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Of the City of New York,

OFFICE, No. 114 BROADWAY.

INCORPORATED 1823.

**CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - $500,000 00**
**ASSETS, - - - - - - - 604,535 59**

**NO CLAIMS FOR LOSSES.**

**Abstract of the EIGHTY-THIRD Semi-Annual Statement, showing the Condition of the Company on the 31st day of December, 1863.**

## ASSETS:

| | |
|---|---|
| Loans on Bond and Mortgage, being first lien on Real Estate, worth over Fifty per cent. above the amount loaned | $157,360 00 |
| Stocks, Bonds, and other Securities owned by the Company, market value | 364,385 00 |
| Cash in Bank and Office | 6,603 11 |
| Loans on demand with collateral | 46,000 00 |
| Premiums due and outstanding | 5,384 00 |
| Cash in Agents' hands in course of transmission, (business of December since received,) | 10,220 39 |
| Interest accrued on Securities | 13,788 83 |
| Other Property of Company | 793 75 |
| | $604,535 59 |

Losses unpaid, none.

Insures Property against Loss by Fire at usual rates, at the Office of the Company, or through their Agents in the principal Cities and Villages of the United States; adjusting and paying Claims with the liberality and promptness that has characterized their business during the past *Forty-one Years.*

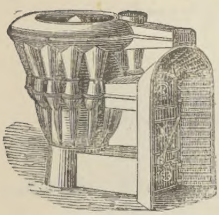
The Customers receive **Three-Fourths** of the Net Profits of the business each year, without incurring any liability whatever.

**R. W. BLEECKER, Sec'y.** **JAMES W. OTIS, Pres't.**

**R. F. MASON, Superintendent of Agencies.**

# SANFORD'S CHALLENGE HEATERS,

**TO SET IN BRICK, OR PORTABLE.**



TO SET IN BRICK.

The most powerful HEATERS known for warming

DWELLINGS, CHURCHES,

**Hospitals, Schools, Vessels, &c.**

Send or call for a FULL DESCRIPTION, and an unparalleled mass of testimony from some of our first citizens.

PORTABLE.

## SANFORD'S MAMMOTH

OR

## GLOBE HEATERS,

Of great power and economy of fuel, for all places where great heat is wanted, as

**Stores, Hotels, R. R. Depots, Vessels, &c.**

These Heaters are used by the Hudson River and other RAILROADS, most of the *Ferries, Fire Engine Houses*, &c. Beware of imitations that are inferior.

*Extensively used in Hospitals and Barracks.*

**GET SANFORD'S MAMMOTH.**

## THE COSMOPOLITE

## PARLOR COAL STOVE,

**With Radiator, Ventilator, and Gas Burning Attachment.**

The Leading Stove for

**PARLORS,**

SITTING-ROOMS,

And all places where a SOFT, PLEASANT HEAT is desired. Fires kept all winter with an astonishingly small supply of coal.

THE

## CHALLENGE AIR-TIGHT KITCHEN RANGES,

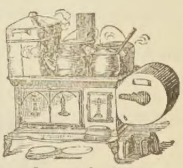
For Coal or Wood, set in fire-places without masonry, or out on feet; have the Largest Ovens of any in market; bake perfectly; never failing to brown at the bottom. Boil, Roast and Broil with great facility and dispatch, and ECONOMY OF FUEL. *A most desirable Range for Private Houses, Hotels, Hospitals, Barracks, &c.*

## BEACON LIGHT

SUMMER AND WINTER

## PORTABLE RANGE.

A very popular Range, with Six Boiler Holes, one Large Oven that bakes perfectly, with an arrangement for Roasting, or Heating Irons, at the end.



☞ *A perfect apparatus for a few dollars, and well suited for families, restaurants, barracks, &c.*

Also, a great variety of COOKING AND HEATING APPARATUS, suited to every want. Also, the UNION STOVE POLISH. Get description of above, with references, from

## SANFORD, TRUSLOW & CO.,

**239 and 241 Water St., New York.**

FRED'C S. COZZENS,

# WINE MERCHANT,

***73 Warren Street, New York,***

(Opposite Hudson River R. R. Depot,)

AND

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, Washington, D. C.,

(Two doors from Willard's.)

**Imported Wines, Brandies, &c.,**

OF THE PUREST QUALITY, FOR

**MEDICINAL AND SANITARY PURPOSES,**

Such as are extensively used in the

**UNITED STATES HOSPITALS**

And by the SANITARY COMMISSION.

ALSO, AMERICAN WINES OF THE HIGHEST GRADES.

Sole Agent in New York and Washington for

Longworth's Sparkling and Still Catawba Wine,
Brandies, etc., etc.

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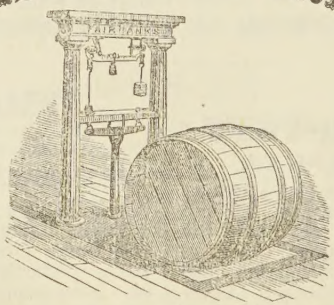
FAIRBANKS' STANDARD SCALES.



**Adapted to every branch of business.**

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY THE ORIGINAL INVENTORS,

**E. & T. FAIRBANKS & CO., St. Johnsbury, Vermont.**

PRINCIPAL WAREHOUSES:

FAIRBANKS & CO., No. 252 Broadway, New York.
FAIRBANKS & BROWN, No. 118 Milk Street, Boston.
FAIRBANKS, GREENLEAF & CO., No. 172 Lake Street, Chicago.
FAIRBANKS & EWING, Masonic Hall, Philadelphia.
FAIRBANKS & CO., No. 246 Baltimore Street, Baltimore.

Descriptive circulars furnished or mailed to any address, on application to either of the above.

# DURYEA'S MAIZENA

RECEIVED

## TWO PRIZE MEDALS

(FROM JURIES 3 AND 4)

AT THE

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,

## LONDON, 1862.

Being Sole Awards gained by anything of the kind. It also received Superlative Report of

**"EXCEEDING EXCELLENT FOR FOOD."**

---

### MAIZENA,

At the GREAT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION at HAMBURG, July, 1863, received the highest Prize Medal for its great delicacy as an article of food.

### MAIZENA,

At the FAIR of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Utica, N. Y., September, 1863, received both DIPLOMA and MEDAL.

### MAIZENA,

AT THE

### Pennsylvania State Fair at Norristown,

OCT. 3, 1863, TOOK GOLD MEDAL.

"MAIZENA" has also taken the first premium at the AMERICAN INSTITUTE, New York City; NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR at Trenton, and at other places—in every instance where it has been exhibited.

"MAIZENA" has never failed to receive the highest award when placed in competition with Corn Starch and all articles of like character, after a thorough Microscopical and Analytical Examination of disinterested judges. It therefore stands commended to the public as the best article of its kind in the world without any comments of the manufacturer.

### MAIZENA,

For Puddings, Cakes, Custards, Blanc Mange, &c., without isinglass, with few or no eggs, at a cost astonishing the most economical. It is also excellent for thickening sweet sauces, gravies for fish and meat, soups, &c. For Ice Cream, nothing can compare with it. A little boiled in milk will produce rich cream for Coffee, Chocolate, Tea, &c.

Put up in one pound packages, under the trade mark "Maizena," with directions for use.

A most delicious article of food for children and invalids of all ages. For sale by Grocers and Druggists everywhere.

**WHOLESALE DEPOT, 166 FULTON STREET.**

**WM. DURYEA, General Agent.**

# STEINWAY & SONS'

## GOLD MEDAL,

## Grand, Square and Upright

# PIANOFORTES,

are now acknowledged the best instruments in America, as well as in Europe, having taken

**TWENTY-SIX FIRST PREMIUMS, GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS,**

at the Principal Fairs held in this country within the last seven years; and in addition thereto, they were awarded a

**FIRST PRIZE MEDAL**

AT THE

## Great International Exhibition

**IN LONDON, 1862,**

FOR

Powerful, Clear, Brilliant and Sympathetic Tone,

WITH EXCELLENCE OF WORKMANSHIP AS SHOWN IN GRAND AND SQUARE

## PIANOS.

There were 269 Pianos, from all parts of the world, entered for competition, and the special correspondent of the *Times* says:

"Messrs. STEINWAY'S endorsement by the Jurors is emphatic, and stronger, and more to the point, than that of any European maker.

"This greatest triumph of American Pianofortes in England has caused a sensation in musical circles throughout the continent, and as a result the Messrs. STEINWAY are in constant receipt of orders from Europe, thus inaugurating a new phase in the history of American Pianofortes, by creating in them an article of export."

**Every Pianoforte Warranted for Five Years.**

WAREROOMS,

## 71 & 73 East 14th Street,

**Between Union Square and Irving Place,**

NEW YORK.